

**ABERTILLERY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.**



REPORTS
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR
1937.



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ABERTILLERY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCILLORS.

Chairman	-	-	W. F. WALTERS, J.P.
Vice-Chairman	-		G. H. JONES.

WARDS.

Cwmtillery.

F. Hayes.
F. Sheen.
J. E. Day.
D. Walters.
A. T. Cann.
W. E. Hodges.

Abertillery.

T. Gale.
W. Beynon.
G. H. Jones.
W. E. Hardwick.
Godfrey Jones.

Six Bells.

W. H. Hillman.
W. Saunders.

Aberbeeg.

F. J. Dayton.
I. Morgan.
I. Edwards.

Llanhilleth.

P. Burchell.
W. F. Waters, J.P.

**Day of Meeting—Last Monday in each Month,
at 6.30 p.m.**

Clerk to the Council	-	-	D. R. Davies.
Surveyor and Water Engineer			A. Gordon Jones, M.I.M.C.E.
Accountant	-	- - -	Harold Powell, F.I.M.T.A., A.S.A.A.
Rating and Valuation Officer	-		D. E. Williams.
Gas Manager and Engineer	-		H. Maycock, M.INST.GAS.E., Chartered Gas Engineer.
Electricity Engineer and Manager	-	- - -	Dawson Thomas. A.M.INST.E.E., M.INST.S.W.E.
Shop Inspector, etc.	..	-	D. T. Bond.

SANITARY, HOUSING, AND CEMETERY COMMITTEE.

The Committee consists of all Members of the Council.

Councillor W. E. Hodges, Chairman.

**Day of Meeting—Friday following Second Monday in
each Month.**

SANITARY STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health	-	T. Baillie Smith, M.B., CH.B., (Glasgow), D.P.H. (Camb.)
Sanitary Inspector (Senr.)	-	J. E. Blissett, A.R.SAN.I., M.I., M.S.I.A.
„ „ (Junr.)	-	Gethin Parry, A.R.SAN.I.
Matron Isolation Hospital	-	Vacant.
Clerk to Medical Officer	-	Stanley E. Thomas.
Health Visitor	- - -	Miss E. Hayes, Cert. Fever and Tuberculosis Training.

ABERTILLERY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH ON THE
SANITARY CONDITIONS, ADMINISTRATION, AND
VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1937.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
ABERTILLERY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting to you the Annual Report for the year 1937.

Natural and Social Conditions of the District. Physical Features and General Character.

The Abertillery Urban District is situated in the Western Valley of Monmouthshire, 13 miles north-west of Newport, and 20 miles south-west of Monmouth.

Its greatest length, north to south is $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles, while it varies in breadth, east to west, from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. It has an area of $10\frac{1}{4}$ square miles, being one of the largest Urban Districts in the County. The population is 28,600, and the rateable value is £91,628 (Abertillery £67,511, Llanhilleth £24,117). The estimated product of a penny rate is £308.

The district lies upon the north-east corner of the South Wales Coal Field.

The Upper Coal Measures have been almost wholly denuded, but the Pennant Series form a moorland plateau from 1,200 to 1,600 feet above sea-level, through which valleys, deep, narrow, and confluent, run from north to south regardless of

the geological formation. The whole of the Blaentillery Valley and portions of the Valleys of the River Ebbw and its tributary, the Ebbw Fach, are within the Abertillery area. The Tillery coal vein, at the base of the Pennant Series, outcrops in long lines on the sides of the valleys north of Aberbeeg, and has been worked by levels.

The Deep or Steam Coal Series are nowhere exposed throughout the district, and are worked by deep pits. The rapid development and former great prosperity of the district are to be attributed mainly to the mining of the deeper coal measures.

The mountain land is sparsely inhabited. The main population is aggregated around the collieries, thus forming a chain of mining towns, linked to the central and largest one of Abertillery.

The chief centres of population are:—Cwmtillery, in the Blaentillery Valley to the north; Abertillery, at the junction of the Blaentillery and Ebbw Fach Valleys; Six Bells, in the Ebbw Fach Valley to the South of Abertillery; Aberbeeg, at the junction of the Ebbw with the Ebbw Fach; and Llanhilleth and Crumlin in the Ebbw Valley to the south.

Elevations above Ordnance Datum.

Lowest Point in District—						FEET
River bed at exit from district below Crumlin						
Low Level Station	...	...	...	...	...	370
Crumlin—						
Road near Viaduct Hotel	...	...	...	...	...	401
Top of Viaduct	...	...	...	...	...	600
Llanhilleth—						
Line at Railway Station	...	...	...	...	...	482
St. Illtyd's Church	...	...	...	...	...	1181
Aberbeeg—						
Engine Shed at Station	...	...	...	...	...	516
B.M. near Aberbeeg School	...	...	...	...	...	625
Six Bells—						
Railway Line	...	...	...	...	...	613

Abertillery—

Road fronting Tin Works	...	...	...	...	649
Foundry Bridge	...	...	...	...	748

Blaina Border—

Railway Line	...	...	...	...	815
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Cwmtillery—

Reservoir	...	...	...	...	...	1150
Top Rows, West Side	...	...	...	...	...	1157

Roads and Railways.

The main roads and the railways run near the river. Formerly the main road between Abertillery and Aberbeeg lay to the west of the river, but some years ago this was supplemented by a more direct and easier graded road on the east side. A similar east road from Abertillery to Blaina has been completed. The road opened up a large acreage of building land, and enabled houses to be erected in a district where they were much required. A road has also been made in recent years reaching from Royal Oak to Hafodyrynys, and another from Cwm Cottage Road to Six Bells through the Cwm Farm fields.

The district is served by the Newport-Brynmawr Branch of the Great Western Railway. There are connections to the L. and N.W. Railway at Brynmawr, and to the Swansea and Pontypool High Level Line near Crumlin—the latter connection unfortunately is not open for passenger traffic, so that passengers have to walk up a steep hill from the Low to the High Level Station at Crumlin. Excellent Road Motor Services have been established.

Wards.

Up to 1908 the district was comprised of three wards. By an order of the Monmouthshire County Council, dated May 6th, 1908, and confirmed by the Local Government Board, December 8th, 1908, the district was divided into five wards, as follows :—

Ward 1, Llanhilleth.—This includes that part of Llanhilleth south-east of the Nant-Cuffin, with the portions of Crumlin and Hafodyrynys which are within the district. Members on

Council, 2. Area, 894 acres. Population, 3,533. Density of population per acre—3.95 persons.

Ward 2, Aberbeeg.—Comprises Aberbeeg and that portion of Llanhilleth N.W. of the Nant Cuffin. **Members on Council,** 3. Area, 927 acres. Population, 3,614. Density per acre—3.89 persons.

Ward 3, Six Bells.—Comprises Warm Turn, Six Bells, and that portion of Abertillery south of Cwm Road and the Vivian Pit. **Members on Council,** 2. Area, 1,091 acres. Population, 4,938. Density per acre—4.52 persos.

Ward 4, Abertillery.—Comprises the township of Abertillery, with the exception of the portions included in **Wards 5 and 3.** **Members on Council** 5. Area, 1,151 acres. Population, 8,117. Density per acre—7.05 persons.

Ward 5, Cwmtillery.—Consists of Cwmtillery with Penybont, Blaenau-Gwent, and Brynteg. **Members on Council** 6. Area, 2,400 acres. Population, 8,398. Density per acre—3.49 persons.

Occupations.

Agriculture, formerly the staple industry of the district, is still represented by some five and twenty sheep or milk farms.

The majority of the male inhabitants are employed in coal mining. Formerly, 9,555 men were employed therein. Of the three collieries temporarily closed down two are now working, and two collieries—one at Aberbeeg and one in Abertillery—permanently closed. Unemployment in the mining industry has existed since 1921 and has been especially severe during the late years, but this year has shown great improvement locally.

A house coal colliery has been opened near Crumlin, and a new level at Cwmtillery.

The following table shows the occupations by sex of persons over 14 years of age as revealed by 1931 Census.

* Excluding employers, managers and foremen.

MALES.

Total, all ages	...	...	16,806
Total, aged 14 years and over	...	...	12,222
Occupied, 14 years and over	...	...	11,450
Operatives (in work)	...	...	8,699
Out of work (all classes)	...	...	2,184
Unoccupied and retired, 14 years and over	...	...	772
Agricultural occupations	...	...	54
Farmers	...	...	26
Gardeners and their labourers	...	...	10
Agricultural labourers	...	...	13
Mining and quarrying occupations	...	...	7,575
Makers of coal gas, coke, lime, &c.	...	...	22
Workers in chemicals, paints, &c.	...	...	3
Metal Workers	...	...	538
Foundry workers*	...	...	10
Smiths, &c.*	...	...	73
Metal Machinists*	...	...	10
Fitters, mechanical engineers, &c.*	...	...	128
Electrical apparatus makers, fitters	...	...	54
Makers of watches, clocks, &c.	...	...	2
Workers in skins ; leather goods makers	...	...	4
Textile workers	...	...	3
Makers of textile goods and articles of dress	...	...	38
Tailors*	...	...	5
Boot, shoe and clog makers*	...	...	27
Makers of foods	...	...	84
Makers of drinks	...	...	10
Workers in wood and furniture	...	...	91

Carpenters*	...	...	63
Wood carvers and turners	...	...	2
Papers workers, bookbinders, &c.	...	...	2
Printers and photographers	...	...	15
Builders, bricklayers, &c.	...	...	235
Bricklayers and masons*	...	...	64
Painters and decorators, &c.	...	...	51
Workers in miscellaneous materials	...	...	19
Railway transport workers	...	...	235
Road transport workers	...	...	233
Water and other transport workers	...	...	112
Messengers and porters	...	...	75
Commercial and financial occupations	...	...	686
Proprietors & managers of retail businesses	...	...	245
Shop assistants in retail businesses	...	...	247
Public Administration and defence	...	...	57
Professional occupations	...	...	182
Teachers	...	...	96
Persons professionally engaged in entertain- ments, &c.	...	...	34
Persons engaged in personal service	...	...	152
Clerks, draughtsmen, typists	...	...	163
Warehousemen, packers	...	...	31
Stationary engine drivers, &c.	...	...	384
Other and undefined workers	...	...	381
General and undefined labourers	...	...	145
Unskilled workers in factories, works, &c.	...	...	174

FEMALES.

Total, all ages	...	...	14,949
Total, aged 14 years and over	...	...	10,535
Occupied, 14 years and over	...	...	1,221
Operatives	...	...	973
Out of work	...	...	102
Unoccupied and retired, 14 years and over	...	...	9,314
Agricultural occupations	...	...	4
Metal workers	...	...	3

Textile workers	...	...	...	1
Makers of textile goods and articles of dress	...	...	...	29
Tailoresses*	...	...	...	2
Dress and blouse makers*	...	...	...	22
Embroiderers, milliners, sewers, &c.*	...	...	...	4
Makers of foods, drinks, tobacco	...	...	...	11
Makers of foods	...	...	...	10
Paper workers, bookbinders	...	...	...	1
Printers and photographers	...	...	...	1
Transport workers	...	...	...	12
Telegraph and telephone operators*	...	...	...	4
Commercial and financial occupations	...	...	...	346
Proprietors & managers of retail businesses	...	...	...	71
Shop assistants in retail businesses	...	...	...	260
Public administration and defence	...	...	...	1
Professional occupations	...	...	...	192
Midwives, nurses, &c.	...	...	...	44
Teachers	...	...	...	146
Persons professionally engaged in entertainments, &c.	...	...	...	5
Persons engaged in personal service	...	...	...	536
Domestic servants	...	...	...	409
Lodging and boarding house keepers	...	...	...	7
Innkeepers, barmaids, &c.	...	...	...	17
Waitresses	...	...	...	3
Laundry workers	...	...	...	4
Charwomen	...	...	...	45
Clerks, typists, &c.	...	...	...	51
Warehousewomen, packers, &c.	...	...	...	1
Unskilled workers in factories, works, &c.	...	...	...	18

The detailed figures relating to coal and shale miners in Abertillery Urban District are as follows:—

	Census 1931.		Census 1921.	
	Males.		Males.	
Owners, agents, managers	...	27	...	39
Subordinate superintending staff	...	224	...	368
Hewers and getters	...	4,640	...	6,108
Persons conveying material to shaft...	...	856	...	886
Persons making & repairing roads	...	455	...	624
Other workers below ground	...	800	...	736
Other workers above ground	...	567	...	796
Totals	...	...	...	...
	...	7,569	...	9,557

The decrease in coal and shale miners between census periods is 1,988.

Vital Statistics.

The population of the Abertillery Urban District at the following Census periods is shown in this table.

Census.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1891	5,984	4,862	10,846
1901	12,069	9,876	21,945
1911	19,378	16,037	35,415
1921	203,97	18,356	38,753
1931	16,806	14,949	31,755

It will be noted that the population increase between 1901 and 1911 was 13,470 persons. This period coincided with the great developments in the coalfield.

The population increase between 1911 and 1921 was 3,338 persons.

The difference between the Census returns of 1921 and 1931 shows a decrease in the population of 6,998 persons actual. This figure is equal to a decrease of 18 per cent.

Out of the decrease of 6,998 persons, 3,591 were males and 3,407 were females.

The population at Census period 1931 was 3,660 persons less than it was in the Census of 1911.

The population of the district according to the latest return is 28,600, an actual decrease compared with 1911 of 6,815 persons and a decrease of 3,155 as compared with the 1931 Census.

There has been a positive increment between 1921 and 1931 in respect of natural increase (i.e., the excess of births over deaths) of 10.3 per cent. and a net loss by migration of 28.3 per cent.—the highest loss recorded by migration in the county. The difference between those two amounts gives a net total loss of 18 per cent.

The percentage increase between 1911 and 1921 was 9.6 per cent.

The difference between the mid-year population of 1936—29,600—and the mid-year population of 1937—28,600—shows a further loss of 1,000 persons.

The total acreage of the district is 6,463 acres. Certain minor changes have been made.

The density of the population of the whole district is 4.42 persons per acre.

The actual density of the inhabited portion is greater than 4.42 as a great part of the hillside and mountain land is uninhabited.

The average age of the male population is 29.7 years and of the female population 29.2 years.

The number of married women aged less than 45 years per 1,000 females of all ages is 286.

The number of females per 1,000 males is 890.

On the occasion of the 1931 Census there were enumerated in the area 108 males and 170 females who were resident elsewhere in England and Wales and 450 persons (230 males and 220 females) resident in this area were enumerated elsewhere in England and Wales, showing an excess of residents in relation to the enumerated of 172 (122 males—50 females).

The following are the 1937 statistics in regard to the Administrative County of Monmouth:—

Population for County		...	...	312,800	
Rateable Value		...	...	£1,122,945	
Penny Rate		...	...	£4,046	
Live births :			Male	Female	Total
	{ Births	(Legit.)	2,456	2,240	4 696
	{ Births	(Illeg.)	78	87	165
	{ Births	Total	2,534	2,327	4,861
Birth-rate	...	...			15.5
Stillbirths	...		137	147	284
Deaths (all causes)	...		2,171	1,773	3,944
Death-rate per 1,000	...	..			12.6
Deaths under 1 year	...		161	150	311
	Illegitimate	...	1	8	9
	Legitimate	...	160	142	302
Infant mortality rate	...	...			63.9

Monmouthshire, in common with other counties associated with the mining industry, contains a larger number of males than females.

In England and Wales, females outnumber males in the proportion of 1,087 to 1,000, whereas in Monmouthshire the proportion is only 955 females for 1,000 males.

This figure is the lowest recorded by any county.

The county of Monmouth has lost by migration about 59,000 population during the past inter-censal period.

The population of the County of Monmouthshire according to the census of 1921 was 358,436 persons (males 186,225, females 172,211) and according to that of 1931 was 345,623 persons (males 178,608, females 167,015)—an actual decrease of 12,813 persons, representing a fall of 3.6 per cent. The population of Monmouthshire increased by 13.9 per cent. between 1911 and 1921.

The estimate of population for the County as supplied by the Registrar-General for the mid-year 1937 is 312,300—a decrease of 7,616 from the previous year, and a decrease of 33,323 compared with 1931 Census.

Altered Areas in Monmouthshire.

In the case of Monmouthshire the changes set in motion by the Local Government Act of 1929 were brought into operation by means of the County of Monmouthshire Review Order, 1935, which operated on the 1st April, 1936. The Newport Extension

Act, 1934, also operated on the 1st April, 1936. There has been no other change of boundary affecting the County or its associated County Borough between the date of the 1931 Census and the 30th June, 1936.

Of the changes it may be noted that the County Borough of Newport has been increased to the extent of 2,815 acres and 9,244 of population at the expense of the Administrative County.

In the Urban portion of the Administrative County four of the Urban Districts, viz., Abersychan, Llanfrechfa Upper, Llantarnum and Panteg have been abolished altogether, and their areas absorbed by other Urban Districts.

Ten other Urban Areas have undergone alterations of area. In particular, Pontypool Urban District has been increased from 232 acres and 6,790 population to 15,907 acres and 43,910 population, and a new Urban District — Cwmbran — has been created with a population of 11,756.

In the Rural portion of the County, Magor Rural District and St. Mellon's Rural District have been abolished and parts of their areas have been created a new rural district — Magor and St. Mellon's.

Three of the remaining four rural districts have undergone alterations.

Abercarn Urban District benefitted to the extent of 18 acres and 48 of a population from the Llanlilleth Civil Parish which is situate at lower end of the Abertillery Urban Area of which it is part.

Pontypool now claims first place as the largest urban area in Monmouthshire.

AGES (GROUPED) AND MARITAL CONDITIONS OF POPULATION (ABERTILLERY U.D.C.)

as constituted at 30th June, 1936, in respect of which
Boundaries have been changed between that date and
date of Census.

Total Population. 31,755.	Total Population.		Married Only.	
	Males. 16,806	Females. 14,949	Males 6,846	Females. 6,889
Marital Conditions—				
Single.	9,318	7,144	—	—
Married.	6,846	6,889	6,846	6,889
Widowed.	636	911	—	—
Divorced.	6	5	—	—
Ages (last birthday) —				
0 - 4	1,397	1,331	—	—
5 - 9	1,655	1,612	—	—
10 - 14	1,845	1,787	—	—
15 - 19	1,631	1,185	1	47
20 - 24	1,436	1,123	237	492
25 - 29	1,364	1,216	731	916
30 - 34	1,166	1,145	908	993
35 - 39	1,080	1,083	916	974
40 - 44	1,053	960	895	855
45 - 49	994	884	827	761
50 - 54	919	772	769	657
55 - 59	856	668	657	536
60 - 64	608	482	448	324
65 - 69	449	331	284	201
70 - 74	203	208	108	92
75 - 79	117	100	52	81
80 - 84	27	42	10	6
85 - 89	5	17	2	4
90 and over.	1	3	1	—

The following table is of interest as showing the populations and parliamentary electors of the various parliamentary divisions in Monmouthshire.

Parliamentary Constituencies.	POPULATION.							Residence Qualification only. Persons	Residence Qualification per 1,000 population
	1921.		1931.		Parliamentary Electors, (Register 1931.)				
	Persons.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.		
Monmouthshire Parliamentary County	450,794	434,958	222,438	212,520	265,311	135,832	129,479	263,770	606
Parliamentary Borough Newport	92,358	89,203	43,819	45,384	57,035	27,901	29,134	56,042	628
Parliamentary County Divisions									
Abertillery	75,375	65,543	34,596	30,947	39,043	20,809	18,234	38,963	594
Bedwellty	75,031	76,528	40,168	36,360	44,432	23,415	21,017	44,309	579
Ebbw Vale	72,181	65,384	34,319	31,065	38,782	20,450	18,332	38,729	592
Monmouth	66,273	71,122	34,869	36,553	44,929	21,863	23,066	44,691	626
Pontypool	69,576	66,878	34,667	32,211	41,090	21,394	19,696	41,036	614

There are six constituencies in the County returning six representatives to Parliament. The average population and electorate per member returned are 72,439 and 44,219 respectively. In only two of the six Monmouthshire constituencies has there been an increase in population during the inter-censal period 1921—1931.

The population of England (Census 1931) is 37,354,917 (males 17,844,709, females 19,510,208).

The population of Wales and Monmouthshire is 2,593,014 persons (males 1,294,135, females 1,298,879).

AGES (INDIVIDUAL YEARS) UNDER 21.

Age Last Birthday	Census, 1931.		
	Males.	Females	Total.
0 - 21	6828	6139	12967
0	280	300	580
1	301	258	559
2	256	228	484
3	258	257	515
4	306	293	599
5	321	270	591
6	318	294	612
7	323	346	669
8	328	323	651
9	369	381	750
10	434	393	827
11	435	429	864
12	323	348	671
13	355	319	674
14	300	298	598
15	319	251	570
16	355	267	622
17	316	230	546
18	329	214	543
19	312	226	538
20	290	211	501

The above is a most interesting table and shows the total number of persons in the area under 21 years of age according to the Census of 1931.

Births.

	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932
Number of Births ...	461	530	509	494	507	543
Birth Rate per 1,000—						
Aberillery ...	16·1	17·9	16·9	16·0	16·2	17·2
England and Wales	14·9	14·8	14·7	14·8	14·4	15·3
Small Towns ...	15·3	15·0	14·8	15·0	14·5	15·4

The total number of births registered locally during 1937 as belonging to the district was 461, of which 236 were males and 225 females.

The return of the Registrar General differ from the local Registrars by 25.

The Registrar General's return of births is 486, an increase of 25 over local returns. Of this number 246 were males and 240 females.

The number of legitimate births was 237 males and 236 females.

The total number of illegitimate births from the Registrar General's return is 13 (8 males - 5 females), which is five in excess of the local Registrar's return of 8 (4 boys - 4 girls).

The number of births during the year 1937 is 44 less than was recorded for 1936, according to Registrar General.

The total number of births in the County for the year 1937 was 4,861 (males 2,534 - females 2,327) - giving a birth-rate of 15·5.

The number of legitimate births was 4,696 (males 2,456 - females 2,240) ; illegitimate births 165 (males 78 - females 87.)

17 still births were recorded by the Registrar General, out of which 15 (males 9 - females 6) were legitimate - 2, (1 male - 1 female) were illegitimate.

TABLE 1.

BIRTHS FOR THE YEAR 1937.

Month.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
January ...	17	12	29	53	41	94
February .	18	14	32			
March ..	18	15	33			
April ..	23	23	46	70	61	131
May .	21	15	36			
June ...	26	23	49			
July ...	16	22	38	66	76	142
August ...	23	21	44			
September ..	27	33	60			
October ..	17	20	37	47	47	94
November ..	16	14	30			
December ...	14	13	27			
Total ...	236	225	461	236	225	461

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TABLE 2.

MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION OF BIRTHS
FOR YEAR 1937.

Month.	Ward 1	Ward 2	Ward 3	Ward 4	Ward 5	Total.
January ...	2	3	10	7	7	29
February ...	6	5	3	5	13	32
March ...	6	4	6	5	12	33
April ...	2	10	5	14	15	46
May ...	4	9	8	9	6	36
June ...	3	8	9	13	16	49
July ...	5	10	3	9	11	38
August ...	6	4	8	10	16	44
September ...	6	14	9	16	15	60
October ...	3	9	11	5	9	37
November ...	2	6	4	8	10	30
December ...	3	5	6	6	7	27
Total	48	87	82	97	147	461

TABLE 3.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS, 1937.

			Population of each Ward.	ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS		
				Boys	Girls.	Total.
Ward	1	...	3,533	—	1	1
"	2	...	3,614	2	—	2
"	3	...	4,928	1	1	2
"	4	...	8,117	1	—	1
"	5	...	8,398	—	2	2
Total			28,600	4	4	8

TABLE 4.

Comparison of Birth Rate and Death Rate
with that of England and Wales.

Year.	Popu- lation.	No. of Births	Birth Rate.	England and Wales	No. of Deaths.	Death Rate.	England & Wales.
1923	39,960	941	23·5	19·7	335	8·4	11·6
1924	39,520	815	20·2	18·8	376	9·5	12·2
1925	39,260	768	19·7	18·3	341	8·6	12·2
1926	39,250	749	19·9	17·8	317	8·5	14·4
1927	36,290	578	15·9	16·7	351	9·7	12·3
1928	32,840	621	18·9	16·7	332	10·1	11·7
1929	32,840	595	18·1	16·3	353	10·7	13·4
1930	32,840	600	18·2	16·3	296	9·0	11·4
1931	31,803	588	18·4	15·8	346	10·8	12·3
1932	31,560	538	17·0	15·3	352	11·1	12·0
1933	31,150	507	16·2	14·4	322	10·3	12·3
1934	30,720	494	16·0	14·8	357	11·6	11·8
1935	30,070	502	16·9	14·7	333	11·0	11·7
1936	29,600	530	17·9	14·8	387	13·0	12·1
1937	28,600	461	16·1	14·9	365	12·7	12·4

Deaths.

The total number of deaths which occurred according to the Registrar General's return was 365, a decrease of 22 as compared with 1936 when the total number was 387.

199 of these deaths occurred in males and 166 in females.

Weekly returns of the deaths are received from the local Registrar, and these returns show the total deaths as 286—155 males and 131 females. In addition there were 80 deaths registered outside the district, making a total of 366.

The death rate for the year was 12·7 per 1,000.

Causes of Death.

TABLE 5. (TABLE III.).

Causes of Death.		M.	F.
ALL CAUSES		199	166
1	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	1	...
2	Measles	1	1
3	Scarlet fever	...	...
4	Whooping cough	...	...
5	Diphtheria	...	...
6	Influenza	6	6
7	Encephalitis lethargica	...	...
8	Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...
9	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	5	12
10	Other tuberculosis diseases	2	...
11	Syphilis	...	...
12	General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	1	...
13	Cancer, malignant disease	15	16
14	Diabetes	1	4
15	Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	6	10
16	Heart disease	73	50
17	Aneurysm	...	...
18	Other circulatory diseases	7	1
19	Bronchitis	8	10
20	Pneumonia (all forms)	24	11
21	Other respiratory diseases	2	1
22	Peptic ulcer	1	...
23	Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	2	2
24	Appendicitis	1	1
25	Cirrhosis of liver	...	...
26	Other diseases of liver, etc.	...	...
27	Other digestive diseases	7	4
28	Nephritis	2	...
29	Puerperal sepsis	...	1
30	Other puerperal causes	...	2
31	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	11	11
32	Senility	...	5
33	Suicide	1	1
34	Other violence	11	2
35	Other defined diseases	11	13
36	Causes ill defined or unknown	...	...
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above).		...	...
Small-pox		...	...
Polioomyelitis		...	...
Polioencephalitis		...	...
Death of infants under 1 year of age			
Total		20	16
Legitimate		19	15
Illegitimate		1	1
TOTAL BIRTHS		246	240
Legitimate		237	236
Illegitimate		8	5
STILL BIRTHS			
TOTAL		10	7
Legitimate		9	6
Illegitimate		1	1
POPULATION.—			
For Birth and Death Rates		28,600	

Out of a total of 365 deaths 123 of those deaths were due to heart disease.

TABLE 6.

MONTHLY DEATHS OF MALES AND FEMALES,
1937.

Month.	Males.	Females.	Total.
January ...	20	23	43
February ...	13	17	30
March ...	14	13	27
April ...	16	11	27
May ...	7	11	18
June ...	13	4	17
July ...	5	11	16
August ...	5	5	10
September ...	11	11	22
October ...	16	9	25
November ...	15	7	22
December ...	20	9	29
Outside District ...	44	86	80
Totals ...	199	167	366

Death Rate—Males ... 6·9 per 1,000

Death Rate—Females ... 5·8 per 1,000

Population for Death Rate ... 28,600

TABLE 7.

DEATHS, 1937. —Monthly and Ward Distribution.

Month.		Ward 1	Ward 2	Ward 3	Ward 4	Ward 5	Total.	
							Months	Quarter
January	...	6	5	6	10	16	48	100
February	...	5	3	5	5	12	30	
March	...	2	1	6	8	10	27	
April	..	5	3	1	7	11	27	62
May	...	1	3	3	7	4	18	
June	...	4	1	3	3	6	17	
July	...	2	2	3	2	7	16	48
August	...	2	3	...	2	3	10	
September	..	2	9	2	3	6	22	
October	...	2	5	6	4	8	25	76
November	..	1	4	4	5	8	22	
December	..	1	1	5	7	15	29	
Transferable Deaths	..	8	15	8	21	28	80	
Total	...	41	55	52	84	134	366	

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1937 and Previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	Of Non-residents registered in the District.	Of Residents registered in the District.	Under 1 yr. of age At all ages			
			Number.	Rate.					Number	Rate per 1,000 Births.	Number	Recorded Death Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1925	39,260	777	768	19.5	277	7.0	0	64	63	82.0	341	8.6
1926	37,250	742	749	20.1	248	6.6	0	69	47	62.7	317	8.5
1927	36,290	578	577	15.9	279	7.7	0	75	49	84.9	351	9.7
1928	32,840	605	621	17.3	264	7.3	0	67	44	70.8	332	10.1
1929	32,840	594	595	18.1	280	8.5	0	73	41	68.9	353	10.7
1930	32,840	589	600	18.2	233	7.0	0	65	34	56.6	298	9.0
1931	31,803	589	588	18.4	292	9.1	0	63	41	69.7	355	11.5
1932	31,560	543	538	17.0	270	8.5	0	83	42	78.0	353	11.1
1933	31,150	492	507	16.2	257	8.2	0	68	44	86.7	325	10.4
1934	30,720	482	494	16.0	292	9.5	0	64	31	62.7	357	11.6
1935	30,070	502	509	16.9	263	8.7	0	70	37	72.6	330	11.0
1936	29,600	530	539	18.2	303	10.2	0	84	38	70.5	385	13.0
1937	28,600	461	486	61.2	286	10.0	0	80	35	72.0	366	12.7

Inquests.

Twenty-four inquests were held during 1937 as against 27 in 1936. The certified causes of deaths were as follows:—

ACCIDENTS.

	M.	F.	Total
In or about Coal Mines ...	5	—	5
Run over by Vehicles ...	2	—	2
Falls	1	2	3
Snicide	1	1	2
Burns	1	1	2
Electric Shock ...	1	—	1
Natural causes:—			
Heart Condition ...	3	—	3
Silicosis	2	—	2
Septicaemia (abortion)	—	1	1
Pneumonia following operation ...	—	1	1
Shock " "	1	—	1
Cerebral Compression	—	1	1
	17	7	24

Thirteen inquests were held on residents who died outside the area.

Colliery Fatalities.

The rate for this is .17 per 1,000 of the population.

Certified Deaths.

The proportion of deaths certified by medical practitioners and inquest cases registered during 1937 was as follows:—

Certified by Medical Practitioners	...	341
Uncertified	...	1
Inquest Cases	...	24

Of the 80 transferable deaths, 68 were certified by Hospital Surgeons and 12 by the Coroner.

TABLE 8.

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1937.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under one year of age.

Causes of Death.			Under 1 Wk.	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month.	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 Year.	
All Causes }	Certified	...	13	4	2	1	20	5	3	4	2	34	
	Uncertified	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	
Small Pox			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Chicken Pox			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Measles			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Scarlet Fever			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Whooping-cough			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Diphtheria and Croup			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Erysipelas			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Tubercular Meningitis			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Abdominal Tuberculosis			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Other Tuberculous Diseases			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Meningitis (<i>Not Tuberculous</i>)			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Convulsions			...	1	1	...	2	...	...	1	2	5	
Laryngitis			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Bronchitis			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Pneumonia			...	...	...	...	...	3	1	2	...	6	
Diarrhœa			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Enteritis			...	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	...	3	
Gastritis			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Syphilis			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Rickets			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Suffocation, Overlaying			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Injury at Birth			...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	
Atelectasis			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Congenital Malformations			...	2	1	1	4	...	...	...	...	4	
Premature Birth			...	5	1	...	6	1	...	...	...	7	
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus			...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2	
Other Causes			...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	2	
Influenza			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Polio-Encephalitis			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Outside District			...	3	1	1	5	...	...	...	...	5	
Totals			...	14	4	2	1	21	5	3	4	2	35

TABLE 9.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE
DURING 1937.

Monthly, Quarterly, and Ward Distribution.

Month.	Ward 1	Ward 2	Ward 3	Ward 4	Ward 5	Outside District	Total.	
							Months	Quarter.
January ...	...	...	1	1	1	2	5	} 14
February ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	
March ...	...	1	2	1	2	2	8	
April ...	...	...	...	2	1	...	3	} 9
May ...	...	1	1	1	...	...	3	
June ...	...	...	1	...	2	...	3	
July ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	} 5
August ...	...	1	...	1	1	1	4	
September ...	..	1	...	...	...	...	1	
October ...	...	1	1	...	...	...	2	} 7
November ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	
December ...	...	1	2	...	1	...	4	
Total ...	...	7	8	6	9	5		35

Infantile Mortality.

DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE IN RELATION TO POPULATION AND DENSITY IN WARDS.

	No. of Deaths.	No. of Births.	Popula- tion.	Deaths per 1,000 of Pop.	Infantile Mortality	Density of Persons per acre.
Ward I	—	48	3,533	—	—	3·95
„ II	7	87	3,614	1·93	80·4	3·89
„ III	8	82	4,938	1·62	97·5	4·52
„ IV	6	97	8,117	·73	61·8	7·05
„ V	9	147	8,398	1·07	61·2	3·49
Outside District	5					
	35	461	28,600	1·22	75·9	4·42

	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
Number of Deaths under 1 year	35	38	37	31	44
Number of Births ...	461	530	502	482	507
Infantile Mortality, Abertillery ...	75·9	71·5	72·6	62·7	86·7

The number of deaths of children under one year of age was 35—a decrease of three as compared with previous year.

The number of deaths of infants under one year recorded for the County was 311 (legitimate 302, illegitimate 9), equal to an infantile mortality of 63·9.

There were 485 births during the year as recorded by the Registrar-General, 472 legitimate births, out of which 34 children died, and 13 illegitimates, out of which 2 children died.

The Infantile Mortality rate forms “the most sensitive index we possess of social welfare and of sanitary administration, especially under urban conditions.”

Table 8 gives a full return of all deaths in children under one year.

Pneumonia and bronchitis caused 6 deaths. Respiratory diseases are very common in our area owing to the severe climatic conditions, etc., under which we live.

Three deaths from enteritis were recorded in infants under one year of age. Enteritis as a cause of death in infants is gradually disappearing. Many factors account for this.

Congenital Malformation accounted for 4 deaths within the first month of life.

Premature birth and congenital debility was the cause of 9 deaths. This is a pre-natal question. If this cause of infant death could be materially dealt with, it would lead to a great reduction of infantile mortality.

Out of 9 deaths recorded from above causes you will observe that 6 of these deaths occurred within the first week of life, and one occurred within the second week.

A substantial proportion of the incoming race is lost each year through abortion, miscarriages, still-births, and dead infants, and it is of national importance that these lives should be saved. The causes of high infantile death rate also affect the health of the survivors, and lie near the roots of our social life.

To obtain a correct understanding of the principal causes concerning infant mortality it is necessary to bear the following facts in mind:—

- (1)—Its incidence falls chiefly in the first three months of life, and especially in the first week of the first month.
- (2)—In this country it is higher in urban than in rural areas.
- (3)—It is higher among illegitimate than among legitimate children.
- (4)—It is related to the age of the mother and the number of her children.
- (5)—Its incidence is dependent not upon density of population, but upon local and domestic conditions characteristic of limited industrial areas and social classes of the community.

Seventeen still-births were recorded—15 legitimate, two illegitimate.

Zymotic Diseases.

	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932
Number of Deaths	7	6	8	12	4	16
Death Rate per 1,000, Abertillery ...	·24	·20	·26	·39	·12	·50

The number of deaths from the principal zymotic diseases during 1937 was 7, equivalent to a death rate of .24 per 1,000 persons of all ages.

Details as to the number of cases, deaths, etc., are given in the following table under the headings of various diseases.

TABLE 10.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES, 1937.

	Notified Cases.	Deaths.	Case Fatality per cent.	Death Rate.	England & Wales.
1 Small Pox ...	—	—	—	—	·00
2 Scarlet Fever ...	119	—	—	—	·01
3 Diphtheria ...	3	—	—	—	·07
4 Fevers					
Typhus, etc. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid ...	1	1	—	·03	·00
Continued ...	—	—	—	—	—
5 Measles ...	—	2	—	·06	·02
6 Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	·04
7 Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 yrs.)	—	4	—	·13	5·8

TABLE II.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1937.

		Total Cases Notified.	Cases ad- mitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Small-Pox	...	—	—	—
Diphtheria	...	3	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	119	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Para Typhoid	...	1	—	1
Puerperal Fever	...	—	—	—
„ Pyrexia	...	1	—	—
Chicken Pox	...	—	—	—
Measles	...	—	—	2
Pneumonia—			—	—
(a) Influenzal	...	5	—	35
(b) Acute Primary	...			
Erysipelas	...	5	—	—
Polioencephalitis	...	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—				
(a) Pulmonary	{ M ...	15	11	5
	{ F ...	15	11	12
	{ Total	30	22	17
(b) Non-Pulmonary	{ M ...	5	4	2
	{ F ...	2	2	—
	{ Total	7	6	2

TABLE 12 (continued).

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED, 1937.

Ward Distribution.

DISEASE.		Ward 1	Ward 2	Ward 3	Ward 4	Ward 5	Totals
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	...	1	...	...	...	2	3
Scarlet Fever	...	14	14	14	41	36	119
Enteric Fever	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	{ M	...	1	1	...	1	3
	{ F	...	2	...	...	...	2
	{ Total	...	3	1	...	1	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	1	1	...	1	3
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polio-myelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis—							
(a) Pulmonary	{ M...	1	5	4	1	4	15
	{ F...	4	2	2	3	4	15
	{ Total	5	7	6	4	8	30
(b) Non-Pulmonary	{ M...	1	2	2	...	...	5
	{ F...	1	...	1	...	...	2
	{ Total	2	2	3	...	...	7

Scarlet Fever.

	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
Number of Cases Notified	119	161	44	110	22
Number of Deaths	—	1	1	—	—
Death Rate per 1,000					
Abertillery	—	.03	.03	—	—
England and Wales	.01	.01	.01	.02	.02

119 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year—a decrease of 42 as compared with the previous year. A study of the above figures will show the rise and fall of cases since 1933.

The number of cases notified each month, compared with the numbers notified monthly during previous years, can be seen from the following table.

MONTHLY NOTIFICATION OF SCARLET FEVER.

	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
January	24	5	3	2	4
February	21	5	1	3	2
March	15	5	3	4	2
April	16	2	3	3	1
May	4	1	3	4	1
June	7	6	2	19	2
July	3	8	3	28	5
August	—	2	4	21	1
September	3	13	5	7	1
October	8	22	7	10	—
November	6	50	6	5	3
December	12	42	4	4	—
	119	161	44	110	22

The Ward distribution was as follows:—

		No. of cases each year.				
		1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
Ward	I	14	3	2	9	1
„	II	14	10	2	9	5
„	III	14	39	4	22	4
„	IV	41	49	14	24	5
„	V	36	60	22	46	7
		119	161	44	110	22

The monthly increase in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever commenced in September, 1936, and continued to the end of April, 1937, when disease again abated.

Careful inquiry in September, 1936, revealed several missed cases of Scarlet Fever who had been ill when on August holiday outside of the area, and who returned to this area with skin peeling.

The cases of Scarlet Fever were of a mild type in September, but towards the end of the year 1936 the type became more severe, in some cases anginose. Some severe cases were dealt with in the first four months of the year. In May there was a great improvement.

I wish again to call the attention of all practitioners to the prompt notification of this disease.

The method of disinfection employed is a modification of that advocated by Dr. Robert Milne, but Formamint Tablets are used for the throat instead of Carbolic Acid solution. Immediately upon receipt of the notification of a case of Scarlet Fever, the house is visited, and the parent or nurse in charge of the patient is instructed as regards isolation and disinfection. A four ounce bottle of Eucalyptus and Olive Oil, and a tube of Formamint Tablets, are supplied with full instructions as to their use. Tins of disinfectant are supplied as required.

Eucalyptus inunction at home is, in my opinion, the best available alternative to complete isolation in hospital.

When a case is notified in a school child the classroom is immediately visited and all children examined. Many missed cases have been discovered by this method in recent years.

The age distribution of the cases can be seen from Table 12.

97 cases were notified in young persons between the age of 4 years and under 15 years.

Six cases occurred in children under four years of age.

123 cases occurred in school children.

Diphtheria.

		1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
Number of Cases notified	...	3	8	9	6	22
Number of Deaths	...	...	...	2	1	1
Death Rate per 1,000 :						
Abertillery	...	...	...	·06	·03	·03
England and Wales	...	·07	·07	·08	·10	·06

The number of cases notified during 1937 was 3, as compared with 8 during the year 1936, and 9 during the year 1935.

This shows a decrease of five cases compared with the previous year.

One case was notified in each of the months of February, March and December.

Wards 2, 3 and 4 were free from Diphtheria. One case occurred in Ward 1, and the other two cases in Ward 5.

Two cases occurred between the ages 5 and 15 years, and the other one occurred in an adult aged 29 years.

You will note the low incidence of Diphtheria in this area for several years past.

No death was certified as due to Diphtheria.

Diphtheria Antitoxin is supplied free to all cases.

Success in the treatment of Diphtheria depends on the promptness of administration of the Antitoxin. The result of a swab should not be awaited before administering the Antitoxin. In all cases give Antitoxin at once.

In all cases of throat trouble in children the family doctor should be called in at once.

The Medical Practitioners invariably give Antitoxin promptly.

Enteric Fever.

One case of Enteric Fever was notified during the year. This case proved fatal.

The death rate per 1,000 for England and Wales was .01.

Memorandum.

The Registrar General has pleasure in furnishing, for the information of the Medical Officer of Health of the Urban District of Abertillery, the tabular statement showing in the first column of figures the number of cases of certain infectious diseases notified during the year, as compiled from his returns, and in the second column case rates per 1,000 population from the same diseases in England and Wales during the year 1937.

Disease.	Cases notified in the District.	Case Rate per 1,000 living England & Wales.
Small-Pox 	—	—
Scarlet Fever 	119	2·33
Diphtheria 	3	1·49
Enteric Fever 	1	0·05
Puerperal Fever 	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia 	1	—
Erysipelas 	5	0·37

The rates of Puerperal Sepsis and other Puerperal causes are better expressed in relation to the number of births registered rather than to the population. When calculated on this basis the rates are for England and Wales:—Puerperal Sepsis 0·97 and other Puerperal causes 2·26 per 1,000 births registered during the year.

Tuberculosis.

The total number of cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year was 37, as compared with 39 cases during 1936.

Of this, 30 cases were of a pulmonary type, and 7 cases of non-pulmonary type.

The following table gives in detail the monthly notification of all cases of Tuberculosis.

MONTHLY NOTIFICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Month of Year.	Total.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
January ...	2	—	2	—	—
February ..	—	—	—	—	—
March ...	5	1	2	2	—
April ..	4	2	2	—	—
May ...	3	1	2	—	—
June .	6	3	2	1	—
July ...	5	2	2	1	—
August ..	2	2	—	—	—
September ...	2	2	—	—	—
October ...	4	—	1	1	2
November .	2	2	—	—	—
December ...	2	—	2	—	—
Totals ...	37	15	15	5	2

Total :	1st Quarter ...	7	3rd Quarter ...	9
	2nd ,, ...	13	4th , ...	8

Under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930, it is the duty of every Medical Practitioner to notify each patient suffering from Tuberculosis within 48 hours of his becoming aware that the patient was so affected. I particularly call the attention of medical practitioners to this regulation.

No deaths occurred in un-notified cases.

The Minister views failure to perform this duty with much concern, and he has communicated directly with all Medical Practitioners.

The Tuberculosis Regulations expressly require that all notifications shall be regarded by the Medical Officer of Health and every person who has access thereto as confidential.

According to the Registrar-General's returns, 17 deaths were recorded from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, of which 5 occurred in males, and 12 in females.

Two male deaths were recorded of the Non-Pulmonary type of the disease.

The local returns show 15 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 5 in males, 10 in females and 1 male and 1 female from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The following tables analyse the deaths from Tuberculosis occurring in notified and non-notified cases with the monthly distribution.

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1937.

MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION.

43

Month of Year.	Total Deaths.		DEATHS IN NOTIFIED CASES.				DEATHS IN NON-NOTIFIED CASES.			
	Notified Cases.	Un-Notified	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
			Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
January	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
February	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
March	3	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
April	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
May	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
June	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
July	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
August	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
September	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
October	3	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
November	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
December	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	17	—	5	10	1	1	—	—	—	—

Dr. J. Glyn Jones, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., Tuberculosis Physician, attends at Abertillery Centre on Wednesday of each week. The Centre is situate at 88, Queen Street, Abertillery.

Dr. J. Glyn Jones, Tuberculosis Physician, presents the following Report on Tuberculosis work in the Abertillery Urban District for the year ending 31st December, 1937.

The first Wednesday of each month is specially devoted to the examination of school children.

ABERTILLERY. TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

Number of new cases examined during the year 1937	...	...	...	...	...	...	170
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Number of new school cases examined during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Number diagnosed as suffering from							
(a) Pulmonary Tuberculosis					...	23	
(b) Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis					...	12	

Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Total number of patients examined at the Tuberculosis Dispensary	...	...	...	746
--	-----	-----	-----	-----

Number of Patients admitted to Hospital	...	26
---	-----	----

Number of Patients admitted to Sanatorium	...	5
---	-----	---

Total	...	31
-------	-----	----

T.B Cases notified in School Children, 1937 :

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Pulmonary	2	1	3
Non Pulmonary	1	1	2
	3	2	5

Special forms marked "I" and "II" are received each week from the County Medical Office, and also from Medical Officers

in charge of Tuberculosis Institutions informing me of the patients from this area admitted, or discharged, from various sanatoria.

Form "I" contains details of cases admitted, and Form "II" details of cases discharged from various Institutions.

The following table shows the total number of cases treated during the year, together with the number admitted to or discharged from sanatoria, etc., during the various months of the year.

	Admitted.				Discharged.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
January	...	1	1	...	..	1	...	...
February	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
March	1	1	1	1	...	2	1	...
April	1	3	...	..	2	...	...	...
May	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	..
June	3	2	...	...	2	1	...	...
July	1	3	...	...	2	1	3	...
August	1	1	...	...	...	2	...	...
September	2	...	1	...	2	...	1	...
October	1	...	1	.	1	...	..	...
November	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	1
December	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
	11	11	4	2	13	7	6	1
	28				27			

From the above table you will note that 28 cases of Tuberculosis—15 males and 13 females—were admitted in Institutions, and 27 cases—19 males and 8 females discharged.

The following table shows the various Institutions for the treatment of Tuberculosis to which patients were treated during the year, together with the number admitted or discharged from each Institution.

T B. Hospital or Sanatorium.	Pulmonary				Non-Pulmonary.			
	Admitted.		Discharged		Admitted.		Discharged	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Glan Ely ...	1	...	...	1	1	..	1	...
Cefn-Mably ...	7	7	10	4	...	...	...	...
North Wales San., Llangwyfan ...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...
Mardy, Merthyr ..	...	1	...	1	..	...	...	...
South Wales San.,	1	...	3	...	1	...	...	...
Sully Hospital, Glam ,	2	...	..	1	1	...	1	...
Highlands Moors, ...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...
Ty-Bryn, Tredegar ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
St Brides ...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	1
Adeline Patti ...	...	1	...	...	...	..	1	...
	11	11	13	8	4	2	4	1

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

No Tuberculous employees are engaged in the milk trade, and consequently no action was necessary.

Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.

No order for the compulsory removal of patients to hospital was made.

Examination of the figures of cases of tuberculosis of all kinds notified and of the recorded deaths from this disease over a period of years does not reveal any increase in this disease locally. In fact, if it shows anything at all, it shows a tendency to decrease, as will be seen from the following table.

Year	Yearly Notification of Tuberculosis.				Total Yearly Cases of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Deaths from Tuberculosis.				Total Yearly Deaths from Tuberculosis
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
	Males	Females	Males	Females		Males	Females	Males	Females	
1921	17	12	5	8	42	11	9	2	3	25
1922	45	25	11	13	94	20	15	2	3	40
1923	15	32	15	11	73	10	11	3	3	27
1924	17	28	10	8	63	8	13	3	7	31
1925	22	29	7	13	71	12	17	6	5	40
1926	22	18	10	6	56	9	12	3	4	28
1927	17	22	11	7	57	8	11	4	6	29
1928	16	7	5	11	39	13	14	3	1	31
1929	7	6	4	5	22	8	7	4	1	20
1930	9	17	8	5	39	8	11	6	1	26
1931	25	20	3	7	55	12	11	5	4	32
1932	18	19	9	6	52	12	10	2	—	24
1933	27	16	4	4	51	13	12	4	1	30
1934	15	12	4	3	34	13	13	4	1	31
1935	11	24	2	4	41	11	14	1	1	27
1936	14	18	4	3	89	12	9	2	—	23
1937	15	15	5	2	37	5	10	1	1	17

You will note that 52 cases were notified in 1920 and 26 deaths occurred, whereas in 1937, 37 cases were notified and 17 deaths occurred.

This apparent fall is in common with the rest of the country as a whole.

The diminution in non-pulmonary disease in human being is encouraging. In 1919 the deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis was 10,328 for the country and in 1933 these had fallen to 5,405.

The mortality from all forms of tuberculosis has declined by 72 per cent. in England and Wales since the decennium 1851-60 and not only has the mortality fallen but it has also declined in relation to other diseases.

From a study of the following table you will note the age incidence of the disease, most cases occurring between 15 and 25 years of age.

You will also observe that out of the 30 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified, 15 of those occurred in females and 15 in males.

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE PERIODS OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS
AND OF ALL DEATHS FROM THE DISEASE DURING.
1937.

Age Periods in Years.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
5	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
15	5	3	1	1	2	2	...	...
20	2	6	...	...	1	3	...	1
25	1	2	2	...	...	4	1	...
35	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
45	3	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
55	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
65	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 +	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	15	15	5	2	5	10	1	1
	30		7		15		2	

Speaking generally, pulmonary tuberculosis is not a disease of "school age." It is uncommon below the age of 10 years and only slightly more common from 10—15 years.

Improved methods of diagnosis, particularly X-Ray examination, have shown that the disease does exist at these ages.

From 15—25 there is a very large increase in its incidence about 36 per cent. of the cases diagnosed as pulmonary tuberculosis are in this age group—males and females being almost equally affected. After 25 years there is a diminution of the incidence rate up to 40 years of age when there is another rise accounting for 20 per cent. of the total cases.

This rise is chiefly between 45 and 55 and usually is mostly in men, there being three men to one woman in this age group, but from the local table you will note four cases occurred in males over 45 years of age, and one female.

In the middle-aged group the disease is of a fairly chronic type, whereas in the young adult the type is of acute tuberculosis. The chronic type usually responds well to treatment, but not so the young adult acute type, and the aim should be, if possible, prevention.

Many cases return to houses totally unsuitable for the continuous treatment necessary to effect an arrestment or cure and also without the accommodation to ensure a separate well-ventilated bedroom and thus prevent them from becoming a source of infection to others.

I have recommended the Council to build a specified number of houses for families in which one or more of the members suffer from this disease and to let them at extremely low rentals. This suggestion has not yet materialised, but, if not, special consideration should be given to those families.

COMMITTEE OF ENQUIRY INTO THE ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS SERVICES IN WALES.

**Submissions and Evidence placed before the Ministry of Health
Committee by the Monmouthshire Urban District Councils'
Association.**

Dr. THOMAS BAILLIE SMITH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.(Camb.).

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer of the Abertillery Urban District Council and Abertillery Education Committee. Medical Officer of Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics for the Abertillery Urban District under the Monmouthshire County Council.

ARTICLE 5. PUBLIC HEALTH TUBERCULOSIS REGULATIONS, 1930.

Notification of Cases of Tuberculosis.

Notifications of Tuberculosis are made by the Medical Practitioners in attendance, and from the figures on page 45 of my Annual Report, 1936, as supplied by the Tuberculosis Physician to this area, it will be seen that the services of the Welsh National Memorial Association are taken full advantage of locally by the Medical Practitioners. There may be some delay in arriving at an early diagnosis owing to the obscurity of the symptoms of the disease in its early stages and Section 7 of the Public Health Tuberculosis Regulations, 1930, specifically states that, for the purpose of these Regulations, a Medical Practitioner shall be deemed to have become aware that a person is suffering from Tuberculosis when he has arrived at this conclusion from evidence other than that derived solely from Tuberculin Tests applied to that person, i.e., to say he must have other evidence such as that provided by X-Ray screening of the lungs or other classical symptoms.

All positive tuberculin reactions should be regarded as possible tuberculosis cases and kept under continuous observation till proved otherwise. Apparently a few patients seem to object to notification and no doubt, in some cases, Medical Practitioners undoubtedly consider their feeling but after a little persuasion these occasional cases are notified.

(2) Under Article 6 the forms referred to are usually received at regular intervals but there is room for improvement

here, as the patients are often in the sanatorium before the health authority are aware. Under Article 10 the duties in this area are carried out as stated in the Article.

(3) In connection with Article 11 of the Public Health Tuberculosis Regulation, 1930, after receipt of notification of a case of tuberculosis that case is visited by the Medical Officer of Health or by one of the Nurses part of whose duties are specifically delegated to that purpose and particulars of the case are duly entered on a special card drawn up on the lines of Form T.1 (Wales).

Any housing defects noted on that card are dealt with by the appropriate Sanitary Officer who also visits the house to note and have remedied the necessary defects. Instructions are given to the patient re the proper method of isolation and the steps necessary to protect the children or others who may come in contact with the patient—the necessity of having a separate well-ventilated room (not always available) the care and disposal of the sputum, the ventilation of the premises, most suitable position for bed, etc.

Advice re diet has usually been given by the Medical Practitioner in attendance or the Tuberculosis Officer, and this is on no account interfered with unless a question is asked by the patient or attendant.

(4) The person in attendance is instructed that if patient is removed to a sanatorium or the address is changed, to notify the health authority as soon as practicable so that the room, bedding, etc., may be disinfected before being occupied by another person. Returns are received regularly of patients admitted to sanatoria but by adopting this method I am usually informed of removal before returns are received and the disinfecting work is thus completed earlier. Tins of disinfectant are supplied at regular intervals on request. In the Abertillery Area the Council have an excellent disinfecting apparatus (Washington Lyons by name). On the demise of a patient the house and all articles are disinfected and very often request is made by the family to destroy the bedding, etc. Sputum flasks are supplied usually by the Welsh National Memorial Association and, if not, by the Abertillery Council. Pamphlets supplied by the Welsh National Memorial Association are usually in the hands of the patient, or if not, are supplied.

Contact children are usually seen by the School Medical Officer who is the Medical Officer of Health and these are kept under observation at the Clinics during school life and are referred to the Tuberculosis Officer as required. A special day for examination of children and contacts and suspected cases in children has

been provided for this area by the Welsh National Memorial Association and the figures can be seen on Page 45 of my Annual Report for 1936 and also for previous years. This is a most valuable provision and has helped considerably to strengthen the co-operation necessary for successful anti-tuberculosis work in this particular area and I fully believe that by paying attention to the health of the school and pre-school children who may or may not have been contacts and grouping suspicious cases as pre-tubercular many of those cases can be prevented from developing tuberculosis in later life, say in the 15 to 25 years of age group as I believe the infection of tuberculosis is obtained in many cases years before it develops although no symptoms may be showing apart from trivial forms of continuous ill-health.

(5) The necessary supplies of milk for school children and school feeding (which is done on a large scale by the Abertillery Council) can be secured at school as long as the child is in attendance at school **but should the child become ill and unable to attend school these most necessary adjuncts are discontinued according to present regulations.**

(6) In my opinion the duties imposed by these articles can be most efficiently carried out by the local sanitary authority. Much more intensive 'after care' could be done by appropriate staff and with more finance, the social and economic care of the patients and their families would be extended.

The most active co-operation of the Medical Officer of Health, Local Practitioners, Tuberculosis Officers, School Medical Officers and all Officers of Maternity and Child Welfare Centres should be utilised.

Provision of further holiday camps or institutions for treatment and 'building up' of all school children and infants in this pre-tubercular group or in the 'contact group.' More provision of open-air shelters when advantage can be taken of these and open-air education. Sufficient and warm clothing, boots, bedding, etc. Adequate nutrition is the basis of tuberculosis work, and this requires an adequate family income or special allowance. The Welsh National Memorial Association should be limited to treatment and all preventative measures left to Local Authorities.

(7) Further intensive research into the life history of the Tubercle Bacillus is still necessary as I personally do not believe we have yet the full knowledge of its life history and habits.

The different lines of infection of the human body also requires more consideration and research than is being devoted to it.

(8) In my opinion much more money and energy should be spent on the side of preventive work in its widest aspects and the greatest care taken of the pre-tubercular child of all ages and the contacts, and also mothers and nursing mothers, and every case of notified tuberculosis should be regarded as a failure of the preventive side of the work.

A study of the age incidence of the disease would reveal that rather modified preventive measures would be required for different age groups and different types of cases and various stages of the disease.

(9) Suitable and adequate housing accommodation should be available at moderate rentals for the benefit of persons suffering from tuberculosis so that the patient can be properly isolated and all the family contacts housed properly.

On returning from sanatoria or hospitals economic circumstances often affect patients adversely and some means should be provided whereby a grant for proper sustenance should be available whether person is in receipt of public assistance or otherwise.

If proper housing with sufficient rooms cannot be obtained for the family some other arrangement should be made such as "boarding-out" of children with other families with suitable or surplus bedroom accommodation who would be willing for payment to perform those duties.

The operative schemes for the removal of infected tonsils and adenoids of the School Medical and Infant Welfare Services has helped materially to reduce tubercular glandular infection in children.

The Dental Services also have considerably contributed to these improvements by the removal of septic oral infection and decayed teeth.

A great deal of stress is laid on early notification on becoming aware of a case of the disease. Please do not confuse early notification with early diagnosis. It is early diagnosis and prompt notification that are required.

Many cases are diagnosed too late.

The early diagnoses of tubercular infection is not an easy matter. One must have this disease constantly uppermost in his mind so as not to miss any cases.

Erysipelas.

Five cases of Erysipelas were notified during the year.

Small Pox.

No case of Small Pox was notified during the year under review.

Puerperal Fever.

One case of Puerperal Fever was notified during the year.

Puerperal Sepsis accounted for one death, and other Puerperal cases for two deaths.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

No cases were notified during the year.

Puerperal Pyrexia is defined as any febrile condition occurring in a woman within 21 days after childbirth or miscarriage, in which a temperature of 100° Fahrenheit (38° Centigrade) or more has been sustained during a period of 24 hours, or has recurred during that period.

Polio-Encephalitis.

No case was notified during the year.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

No case was notified during the year.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

For the purpose of notification the expression " Ophthalmia Neonatorum " means a purulent discharge from the eyes of an infant, commencing within twenty-one days from the date of birth.

Three cases were notified during the year.

This disease is apt to cause ulceration of the cornea, and this condition is followed by visual impairment, or, if severe, actual blindness.

The County Council supply "eye-drops" to each Midwife in the area from the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, and these "drops" are instilled into the eyes of the newly-born child.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum is a highly preventable condition.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cases.			Vision un- impaired	Vision impaired	Total Blind- ness.	Deaths.
	Notified	Treated.					
		At Home	In Hospital				
	3	3	...	..	...	...	...

Measles.

Two deaths were recorded during the year as due to Measles.

Diarrhoea and Enteritis.

Three deaths were registered as due to Enteritis in children under 12 months during 1937.

There was a remarkable absence of diarrhoea in children.

The deaths rate from this disease was .13 per 1,000. The method of stating the diarrhoeal death-rate in terms of the entire population, is especially open to objection, as about 80 per cent of the total deaths from Diarrhoea occur under one year of age. It would be a more accurate approximation to the truth if stated in terms of the number of births.

Influenza.

Six male deaths and six female deaths were recorded from this disease. Influenza was prevalent during the year.

Pneumonia.

	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932
Number of Deaths (all forms)	85	25	31	18	32	17
Death-rate per 1,000						
Abertillery	1.2	.84	.09	.58	1.0	.53

Thirty-five deaths were registered as due to Pneumonia (all forms) (24 males and 11 females), and of these, 6 occurred in children under one year of age.

Notice was given to all Medical Practitioners of the duties imposed upon them by these regulations, and their special attention has again been called to the fact that cases of Acute Pneumonia and Influenzal Pneumonia were notifiable diseases.

Five cases of Pneumonia were notified during the year in three males and two females.

Cancer.

15 male and 16 female deaths were attributed to Cancer.

Isolation Hospital.

The Isolation Hospital was closed during the year.

Public Mortuary and Post-Mortem Room.

The old Public Mortuary, situate in Castle Street, has been closed.

The Council has provided an excellent new mortuary and post-mortem room. The new building was opened on 27th November, 1937.

It is situate on the approved site on the Cemetery Road.

Summary of Nursing Arrangements, Hospitals, and other Institutions available for the District.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(1) *General.*—There is now a voluntary Nursing Association, and four nurses are engaged. This has supplied a long-felt want.

Judging from the reports, excellent work is being done and the financial situation is sound.

(2) *For Infectious Diseases, e.g., Measles, etc.*—This may be done by the Local Authority should necessity demand such action.

Midwives.—The midwives are under the control of the County Council. A special lady inspector visits the midwives at regular intervals, also when the occasion demands.

The new scheme was put into operation during the year.

Clinic and Treatment Centres.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

(Consultation and Treatment).

Three Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are under the control of a Local Committee responsible to the County Council. One centre is situate at Abertillery, one at Six Bells, and one at Llanhilleth. The first centre, was established at Abertillery, and this proved so successful that another centre was formed at Llanhilleth, and still another one at Six Bells. Aberbeeg and Cwmillery areas are desirous of having a centre of their own.

The Abertillery Centre is now held at the old Police Station, Tillery Street, on Fridays, from 9 a.m. till 3 p.m., one doctor being in attendance, assisted by three nurses.

The Six Bells Centre is held at the Primitive Methodist Chapel, High Street, on Wednesday afternoons.

The Llanhilleth Centre is held at the Workmen's Hall on Monday afternoons.

The accommodation at the three Centres consist of a waiting-room, weighing-room, and consulting-room.

The premises at Llanhilleth and Six Bells are taken by the County Council at weekly rentals.

The Police Station belongs to the Monmouthshire County Council.

The Ante-natal Clinic at Crumlin is held at the Clinic, 4, Hafodyrynys Road, Crumlin.

It is open every second Friday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. The accommodation consists of a waiting-room and consulting room for ante-natal cases, and in addition, there are three rooms used for the ordinary purposes of the Infant Welfare Centre.

Another ante-natal centre has been established at Abertillery. It is held on alternate Tuesdays of each month. This is a very busy centre.

Day Nurseries.—The industry is mostly coal-mining, and little or no female labour is employed. There is no demand for an institution of this kind.

School Clinics.—See Table.

Tuberculosis Centre.—This is situate at 83 Queen Street, where the Tuberculosis Physician attends on Wednesday of each week. The Tuberculosis Centre at Abertillery is now a very busy Centre, and patients should attend before 11 a.m. and have the time of their appointment fixed, and so prevent a tedious wait of several hours. The Tuberculosis Physician also visits cases in their own homes at the request of the medical practitioner.

School children are examined at a special session held on the first Wednesday of each month.

An X-Ray Centre has been established by the Welsh National Memorial Association at Pontllanfraith.

Venerel Disease Centre —The Clinic is under under the control of the County Council, and is attached to the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY OR COUNTY COUNCIL.

(1). *Tuberculosis.*—All accommodation for this disease is under the control of the Welsh National Memorial Tuberculosis Association.

There is no local hospital accommodation for Tuberculosis

(2). *Maternity.*—Maternity cases are provided for at a special hospital at Tredegar and also at Blaina, and a few cases are dealt with at Cardiff. A few special cases are treated at the local hospital. Further provision in this direction is being made by the County Council.

(3). *Children.*—There is no local children's hospital. Special beds are provided at Aberbeeg Hospital when required.

(4). *Fever.*—See under Isolation Hospital.

(5). *Small-Pox.*—The Isolation Hospital at Abertillery was originally built for a Small-Pox Hospital, and any cases that have occurred have been isolated there. The County Council have a special Small-Pox Hospital near Pontypool.

(6). *Other.*—The Local Authority contribute £10 per annum to the Royal Gwent Hospital for the benefit of their employees.

The hospital at Aberbeeg is opened for the reception of contributors only, and contains about 40 beds.

The hospital is supported by poundage contributions, levied weekly on the colliery workmen, teachers, Council Officials, employees, etc.

It was primarily intended as an Accident Hospital, but owing to change of policy it has been opened as a General Surgical Hospital, with out-patient departments for eye, throat, nose and ear, X-ray work, diseases of women, and arrangements exist with the local dentists for the necessary dental treatment of subscribers.

ANY INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ETC., IN THE DISTRICT.

No institutional provisions exist in the district for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, or homeless children, but the Public Assistance Committee deal with some of these cases at their hospital and children's homes at Tredegar, and other unmarried mothers are accommodated at Nantyberry.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.	Where Situated.	Nature of Accommodation.	By Whom Provided.
1. Abertillery ...	Old Police Station, Tillery Street.	One Consulting Room and several other Rooms	County Council
2. Llanhilleth ...	Workmen's Institute	One Consulting Room and two other Rooms	
3. Six Bells ...	Primitive Methodist Chapel	ditto	
Ante natal Clinics			
1. Crumlin ...	4 Hafodyrynys Road	Consulting and Waiting Room	County Council
2. Abertillery ...	Tillery Street.	Consulting Room and other rooms	
School and Dental Clinics			
1. Abertillery ...	Council Offices, Abertillery.	Waiting Room Treatment Clinic, Dark Room for Eye-sight and Inspection Clinic Room Dental Room	Abertillery Urban District Council
2. Llanhilleth ...	Workmen's Hall, Llanhilleth.	Waiting Room, Treatment and Dental Room.	
3. Crumlin ...	Sofrydd School, Crumlin.	Special Room	
Tuberculosis Centre	83, Queen Street, Abertillery.	Consulting and Waiting Room and Small Office.	Welsh National Memorial Assoc. for Tuberculosis

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) *For Infectious Diseases.*—The Council had a Horse-Ambulance for the removal of the above cases. It has been in use for many years, and is now unusable. I recommended the purchase of a new ambulance, and the Council agreed to this suggestion.

The County Council now have a motor ambulance for removal of Small-pox cases.

(b) *For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases.*—The Colliery Companies have a motor-ambulance for accident cases only which is stationed at Cwmtillery.

The Order of St. John of Jerusalem have a motor Ambulance service with headquarters at Newport, and these ambulances are always available for transfer of sick to and from hospital at stated charges.

An up-to-date ambulance belongs to the Abertillery and District Hospital.

Laboratory Work.

A Laboratory was built and equipped by the Council in the background of the Council Offices during the year 1910. The Laboratory consists of two rooms. The larger is used for chemical and microscopic work, and the smaller contains sterilizers, fume chambers, incubators, and water still, etc. The Council offers to the medical practitioners of the district free examination of pathological specimens with a view to assisting in or confirming the diagnosis of diphtheria, enteric fever, tuberculosis, ring-worm, etc.

The necessary outfits are supplied on request to all medical men.

During the year the following specimens were examined:—

		No. of Specimen .	Positive.	Negative
For Widal Tests	...	2	—	2
Swabs for Diphtheria	...	4	1	3
For Tubercle Bacilli—				
Sputum	...	14	4	10
Urine	...	1	—	1

		Number of Specimens.	Positive.	Negative.
Urine—				
For Pus, etc.	...	12	3	9
For Gonococci	...	8	1	2
Swabs for Gonococci	...	8	2	6
Hair for Ringworm	...	10	2	8
		54	13	41

Ringworm specimens were all taken from school children.

WATER BOARD REPORT.

Abertillery and District Water Board.

W. Cory Goddard, Esq., M.Inst.C.E., Engineer to the Abertillery and District Water Board submits a report on the water supply and rainfall and work carried out during 1937.

SUPPLY AND RAINFALL.

The total rainfall for the year 1937 recorded at the Grwyne Fawr Reservoir was 57.77 inches, as compared with 61.09 inches in 1936, and 59.30 inches in 1935.

During 1937 the highest daily rainfall was recorded on July 15th, 2.04 inches being registered.

The highest monthly rainfall recorded was 9.93 inches for the month of January, and the lowest was 1.67 inches for the month of June.

Rain fell on 185 days during the year 1937 at the Grwyne Fawr, as compared with 208 days during 1936.

The average rainfall since records were commenced at the Grwyne Fawr, 26 years ago, is 61.82 inches.

GRWYNE FAWR RESERVOIR.

The lowest level of water recorded in the above reservoir during 1937 was 76ft. 7ins. on October 24th, giving a quantity in store of 11,110,000 gallons.

The Grwyne Fawr Reservoir has well maintained the supply to the District during the past year.

MAINS AND SERVICES.

The number of main repairs carried out during the past year was 123, due to subsidence and ground movement.

The number of repairs to service pipes maintained by the Board carried out last year was 767.

The number of service pipes maintained by the Board re-laid last year was 79. These services were badly corroded and where common pipes were re-laid the properties to which the supply has been improved is far in excess of the number of service pipes re-laid.

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED.

The number of complaints received during the past year was 11,254, as against 7,018 in 1936.

Complaints received refer in general to leaking taps and pipes, corroded services, dirty water and poor pressures. These complaints take considerable time to deal with, but in all cases every effort is made to put the defect right. The only cases where this cannot be done to satisfy the consumer are those where the supply given is poor due to corroded services. This is due to the fact that we have no power to compel the owners to remedy the defect.

The number of Waste Water Notices sent out during the year was 706, as compared with 326 in 1936.

CHARGEABLE JOBS AND NEW CONNECTIONS.

The number of chargeable jobs done by the Board during the past year was 2,881, and the number of new connections made including domestic and non-domestic was 101, as compared with 2,155 chargeable jobs and 69 new connections in 1936.

The number of services disconnected was five.

Bye-Laws and Regulations.

The Council have made Bye-Laws and Regulations with regard to the following :—

1. New Streets and Buildings.
2. Swimming Baths and Pleasure Grounds
3. Water Works.
4. Tents, Vans, and Sheds.
5. Employment of Children.
6. Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.
7. Houses Let in Lodgings.
8. Slaughter Houses.
9. Nuisances.
10. Cleansing Footpaths, etc.
11. Removal of House Refuse.
12. New Streets.
13. Management of Mortuary.
14. Management of Cemetery.
15. Fish and Chip Potato Fryers.
16. Dealers in Rags, Bones, and Rabbit Skins.
17. Fire Brigade.
18. Bye-laws with respect to "Registries for Female Domestic Servants."

Adopted and Local Acts.

The Local Acts of Parliament are:—

1. The Abertillery Local Board (Gas and Water) Act, 1894.
2. The Electric Lighting Order and Confirmation Act, 1901.
3. The Abertillery Urban District Council Act, 1902.
4. The Western Valleys (Mon.) Sewerage Board Act, 1903.
5. The Abertillery and District Water Board Act, 1910.

The following Acts have been adopted:—

1. The Baths and Wash-houses Act, 1846 to 1882.
2. Part III of the Public Health Amendments Acts, 1890, relating to Sanitary and other Conveniences, and Part IV relating to Music and Dancing.
3. Parts II, III, IV, V, and VI of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.
4. The Private Street Works Acts, 1892.
5. Shops (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928.

Public Health Staff.

SANITARY STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health	- -	T. Baillie Smith, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., (CAMB.)
Senior Inspector	- - - -	Frank Padfield, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Inspector	- - - - -	J. E. Blissett, M.I., A.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.
Matron Isolation Hospital	-	Vacant.
Clerk to the Medical Officer	-	Stanley E. Thomas.
Health Visitor	- - - - -	Miss M. E. Hayes, Cert. Fever & Tuberculosis Training.

The Medical Officer of Health is a full-time Medical Officer, and holds the degree of M.B., Ch.B., with Commendation, Glasgow, 1906, D.P.H., Cambridge, 1910, and also studied Medicine and Surgery in Paris Hospitals after Graduating for a period of eighteen months.

Frank Padfield, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., the Senior Sanitary Inspector, who had been on the staff of the Council for over 40 years, retired on the 30th September, 1937. He passed away on 27th October, 1937.

J. E. Blissett, M.I., A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., began as Clerk (Shorthand Typist) to the previous Medical Officer of Health in the year 1910. He obtained the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute in 1911, and later attended a Course of Meat and Food Inspection, the Diploma for which he obtained in 1914.

Stanley E. Thomas, the Clerk, has been on the staff since 1912.

Nurse M. E. Hayes devotes two half-days per week to health visiting and holds Certificates for Fever and Tuberculosis Training.

Gethin Parry, Assistant Sanitary Inspector, was appointed on the 29th November, 1937, and commenced duties on January 1st, 1938

Housing.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

Total	...	...	...	...	2
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts	...	...	...	1394
--	-----	-----	-----	------

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1745
--	------

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	133
--	-----	-----	-----

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	158
--	-----

(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	11
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	159
2.	<i>Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :—</i>			
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	...	106
3.	<i>Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.</i>			
(a)	—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.			
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—			
(a)	By owners	...	...	Nil
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	...	...	Nil
(b)	—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :			
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	117
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—			
(a)	By Owners	...	...	117
(b)	By local authority in default of owners	...	...	0

(c)—Proceedings under section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	...	Nil
--	-----	-----

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	...	Nil
---	-----	-----

(d)—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...		Nil
--	--------	-----

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...		Nil
--	--------	-----

4 *Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding:—*

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the Year ...		103
---	--------	-----

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...	...	103
--	-----	-----

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	...	655
--	-----	-----

(b) Number of new cases, etc. ...		Nil
-----------------------------------	--------	-----

(c) (i) Number relieved ...		Nil
-----------------------------	--------	-----

(ii) Number concerned ...		Nil
---------------------------	--------	-----

(d) Number of dwelling houses overcrowded, etc., after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ...		Nil
---	--------	-----

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle, exclud- ing Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs,	Pigs.
Number killed (if known) ...	250	91	128	2,753	697
Number Inspected	186	66	96	2,064	545
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i> Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	...	...
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	5	...	17	...
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	...	7.5	...	0.82	...
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i> Whole carcasses condemned	...	2	...	...	...
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	...	...	...
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	...	3.03	..	...	...

NOTE.—The number killed was supplied by the Butchers

ERADICATION OF BED-BUGS.

1.—Eradication of Bed-Bugs :

The number of houses found with bugs in them :—

(a) Council Houses ...	3	Treated ...	3
(b) Other Houses ...	38	Treated ...	38

2.—In this district, generally speaking, we do not get whole houses infested, but usually one or more rooms, and, according to the conditions existing so we adopt a method of treatment.

In the Council Houses we adopt the following:—

Before the house is vacated, the tenant is instructed to cleanse, by washing, brushing, and disinfecting all articles that have been in contact with bugs, then remove them.

All woodwork, such as skirting, dado rails, picture rails and architraves are removed after sheets of paper have been placed upon the floor. Each piece of wood removed is treated with the blow lamp and put outside by the way of the window. The sheets that are upon the floor are removed and burnt. The room is then treated with the blow lamp, gassed with formalin and closed. Subsequent visits are made and should it be deemed necessary, the room or rooms treated again—the house is generally kept idle for two weeks. This method is also applied to other houses when empty by request of the landlord. Sometimes sulphur is used after the wall have been sprayed with formalin.

In other cases the tenant is supplied with disinfectants, instructed to wash the walls with it and remove the paper. Should cracks be found in the walls the blow lamp is used, after which the landlord is instructed to fill them up.

3.—The method employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council Houses, is that, if bugs are found upon inspection of the premises, the application is not entertained, and the person is instructed how to get rid of them.

4.—The work of disinfection is carried out by the Local Local Authority.

Housing.

Special reports on the housing conditions have been presented to the Council and these reports with accompanying recommendations are still sub judice. Each member of the Council has been supplied with these reports.

Subsidence.

Special photographs were taken of the extensive damage done to certain properties several years ago.

A detailed report was presented to the Council by Frank Padfield, Esq., Sanitary Inspector, and the Council took up a definite line of action.

There is little active subsidence in the area at the present moment.

Drainage and Sewerage Disposal.

Western Valleys (Mon) Sewerage Board.

The Western Valleys (Mon) Sewerage Board deals with the sewage of eight urban districts, namely:—Abertillery, Abercarn, Risca, Tredegar, Ebbw Vale, Mynyddislwyn, Nantyglo and Blaina, and Bedwellty, together with portions of St. Mellons R.D.C., and the Newport (Mon) Corporation, the latter due to the recent Borough extension.

The scheme has worked well for the past 30 years since its completion.

The main trouble is subsidence in some areas which necessitates careful inspection and somewhat frequent repairs to the Trunk Sewer.

Public Sanitary Conveniences.

ABERTILLERY.

Rose Heyworth Road. (Temporary structure).

Royal Lane, Blaenau Gwent. (Facing Blaenau Gwent Chapel.)

Alma Street.

Foundry Bridge.

Tillery Road (below Club Row).

Bush Hill.

Ladies' convenience situate in Chapel Street with lady attendant.

Corner of Alexandra Road and Vivian Street.

Market Street.

Near New Bridge End Inn, Penybont.

SIX BELLS.

Near Six Bells Bridge.

Near Coach and Horses Inn.

ABERBEEG.

Near G.W.R. Station.

LLANHILLETH.

Opposite Ty'r Graig Schools.

Near Central Hotel. (At foot of hill near railway bridge.)

CRUMLIN.

Near Viaduct Hotel.

A casual inspection of any of these premises, especially those situate at Bush Hill, Six Bells, and Llanhilleth, will show the great amount of damage done by sheer random acts of vandalism. The fittings have not only been damaged but actually destroyed, and in some cases taken away.

The perpetual damage has caused the Council grave concern.

Most of the conveniences require repairs, replacements, and thorough overhaul and the whole position is at present being considered by the Council with a view to repairs and provision of new premises under keener supervision.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE.

The collection of Refuse in the Urban Area is carried out with Petrol Driven Vehicles with covered bodies of semi-circular type (so as to prevent, as far as possible, dust being blown about while the lorries are travelling). These vehicles have superseded the horse-drawn carts which were in use some years ago.

Collections are made three times weekly and about twelve months ago the Council resumed collection of Trade Refuse from the Business Premises. (Under the rigid economy restrictions of 1928, the owners of business premises were asked to dispose of their Trade Refuse by their own means).

The method of disposal is by the now famous Bradford Method, described as "Controlled Tipping."

On the closing down of the Refuse Destructor at the end of 1928, the disposal of refuse was carried out by crude tipping which quickly resulted in complaints of obnoxious smells, vermin, fires, etc., especially on the Tip at Rose Heyworth Road. In 1932, however, the Council introduced the above described method of disposal by which the refuse laid down to plan, properly consolidated, and covered over with earth at the end of each day's work. This method eliminates all the nuisances attendant on the old method, and is being used to provide facilities for recreation. At the moment, the Council are forming a Sports Ground at Rose Heyworth Road for the Abertillery County School, and the Ground, when completed, will include a Football Field, Hockey Pitch, Cricket Pitch and Tennis Courts.

Another Sports Ground is being constructed at the Walpole Field, Llanhilleth. Considerable interest is being shewn in these activities by neighbouring Authorities, and several Councils have sent their Representatives to view the progress and method of the work.

The above report was kindly supplied by the Engineer and Surveyor, A. Gordon Jones, Esq.

**The Sanitary Administration and Conditions
for the year 1937.**

The following tables show particulars of the work carried out by the Sanitary Staff:—

TABLE A.

Occupied dwellings systematically inspected	...	133
Occupied dwellings re-inspected	...	25
Visits to premises for special nuisances	...	1261
Revisits	...	326
Visits to dirty verminous houses	...	17
" Cowsheds	...	7
" Milkshops	...	59
" Bakehouses	...	67
" Slaughter-houses	...	75
" Butchers' shops	...	1014
" Fish, fruit, and vegetable shops	...	1024
" Fried fish shops	...	69
" Marine Stores	...	12
" Common Lodging-houses	...	16
" Workshops	...	32
" Factories	...	77
" Stables	...	35
" Rag flock	...	—
" Water-works	...	15
" Hospitals	...	6
" Pigs' styes	...	61
Total	...	4331

The nuisances were:—

Defective Roofs, troughing, etc.	84
Defective Window-frames, Doors, etc.	44
Defective or insufficient yard paving	20
Damp walls, external	53
Insufficient light, ventilation, and other internal defects	58
Overcrowding	—
Choked or defective drainage	30
Insufficient W.C. and slop-water drainage	38
Defective and insufficient closet accommodation ...	41
Insufficient water supply	—
Accumulation of manure	—
Miscellaneous nuisances, i.e., unfenced quarries, keeping of animals, mountain breaks, etc.	6
Total	374

Many and varied were the nuisances discovered. In some cases the owners and occupiers were interviewed and the nuisances abated at once, and in other cases legal notices were served.

NOTICES SERVED.

Legal Notices served under Public Health Act ...	118
Housing, Town Planning Act (closing order) ...	—
Factory and Workshop's Act	2
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Regulations (lime-washing)	48
Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922	2
Rat and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919	3
Slaughter-houses Bye-laws (lime-washing)	16
Lodging-houses	2
Bakehouses	60
Re Scavenging	160
Slopwater thrown in Street Gutters	53
Total	459

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The visits paid to cases were as follows :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	330
Diphtheria	...	...	...	3
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	81
Erysipelas	...	...	...	3
Pneumonia	...	...	...	3
Scabies	...	...	...	1
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	4
				425

Visits to Feeding Centres	...	...	45
---------------------------	-----	-----	----

Every effort is being made to stamp out infectious diseases, and the following disinfections were carried out :—

Rooms, after Scarlet Fever	...	...	155
" " Diphtheria	...	...	2
" " Pneumonia	...	...	2
" " Tuberculosis	...	...	20
" " Typhoid Fever	...	...	1
" " Cancer	...	...	5
" " Scabies	...	...	1
" " vermin or beetles	...	...	163
Special disinfection of Schools, etc.	...	...	165
County School	...	...	4
Feeding Centres	...	...	462
Total	...		980

Also a large quantity of bedding, wearing apparel, etc., has been disinfected.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

Although we do not participate in the Annual Rat Week in this District, this part of the Public Health Administration is not neglected—in fact we are very much concerned about the damage and destruction caused by these rodents.

In consequence thereof, each and every week, varied bait is laid in their known haunts and runs and in new places when discovered or reported.

As soon as a complaint is received that rats are on any premises, careful investigation is made and invariably the source of ingress or egress is discovered. This being, generally speaking, an old culvert, defective drain, defective inspection chamber or from the river. In the first instance Rat bait is supplied, in the form of biscuits specially prepared for the destruction of these rodents. Should I get another complaint from the same premises, notice is then served upon the Owner under the above mentioned Act of 1919, and in this way—may I venture to say, that as far as this District is concerned, no Rat Week is necessary.—J.E.B.

Housing Town Planning Act, 1909.

The Inspections under this Act were as follows:—

TABLE E.
SYSTEMATIC INSPECTIONS FOR THE YEAR 1937

Ward.	Dwellings Inspected.	Empty Houses, Shops, etc.	One Family.	Two Families.	Three Families.	Occupants.		Average.
						- 10	10 +	
1	14	...	12	2	.	23	46	4.92
2	18	...	17	1	...	32	63	5.27
3	14	..	14	...	...	15	42	4.07
4	47	...	39	8	...	69	155	4.76
5	40	...	35	4	1	60	167	5.67
Total	133	...	117	15	1	199	473	5.05

Foods.**MILK SUPPLY.**

Number of Persons registered under the Milk and Dairies
(Amendment Act, 1922).

Registered during 1937	...	...	...	6
On Register	...	...	...	60
Licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	7
Milk Producers	...	...	...	23

A very small proportion of the milk consumed in this area is produced locally.

The greater proportion is brought in from the English Counties and generally arrives in a clean and fresh condition.

Samples are taken at intervals for testing for Tuberculosis, other bacteria, and cleanliness.

The tests are carried out by the County Council and reports forwarded to this department.

The number of inspections made last year was 93.

Fifty-seven samples of milk were tested in the area during the year ended 31st December, 1937, and two samples were found which were not up to the standard required.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The following particulars show the amount of attention given to securing a wholesome supply of food.

Visits to Premises :

Fish, fruit and vegetables shops	...	1,021
Meat shops	...	1,014
Fried fish and chip shops	...	69
Slaughter-houses	...	75
Pigs examined on private premises	...	92
Lambs	...	18
Bakehouses	...	67
		2,359

(b). MEAT.

The slaughter-houses are visited regularly and the carcasses and intestines are examined, and any found diseased are destroyed, either by burning or burying.

No arrangements have been made for "marking."

Notices of slaughter were received, and 92 pigs and 18 lambs were examined, found good, and passed.

There appears a genuine desire on the part of the meat traders, butchers, pig-keepers, and farmers to supply meat clean and of good quality.

The examination of pigs, sheep, etc., on private property means much extra work and many long journeys for the Sanitary Inspectors, but it creates public confidence in the meat supply and prevents diseased meat being supplied to the public by private keepers.

SHOPS.

We experience difficulty in preventing some butchers from having open windows on dusty days; but now movable glass windows are provided for the protection of the meat when necessary.

STORES AND VEHICLES.

There are no general Meat Stores in the area.

Attention is given to the cleanliness of vehicles, wrappers, etc., used for bringing meat into the district and for conveying meat from the slaughter-houses to the shops, and the conditions are satisfactory.

The men who handle such meat are compelled to wear clean overalls.

There is no public abattoir.

The number of private slaughter-houses in the area is four.

(c). OTHER FOODS.

Meat, fish and fruit shops are regularly visited, and the food exposed for sale or stored is examined.

Pork butchers' premises, where sausage meat and small goods are prepared, receive great and constant attention.

Bakehouses are regularly inspected, and the sanitary conditions are noted and dealt with as required.

No case of food poisoning was recorded in the district during 1937.

The Sale of Food and Drugs Act, also Milk and Cream Regulations, 1912 and 1917, are administered by the Monmouthshire County Council.

Food Inspection.

The following show the variety of Food Stuffs condemned:—

Beef	...	...	1,556 lbs.
Pork	...	...	60 lbs.
Bovine Lungs	...	...	4 pairs
Bovine Spleen	...	...	1
Bovine Liver	...	...	24 lbs.
Bovine Udders	...	...	2
Bovine Heads	...	...	2
Sheep's Livers	...	...	72 lbs.
Sheep's Lungs	...	...	18 pairs

Finned Goods :

Fish	...	...	12 tins
Fruit	...	...	6 „
Milk	...	...	7 „
Corned Beef	...	...	24 lbs.
Tomatoes	...	...	15 tins
Beans	...	...	2 „
Tongue	...	...	1 „

Dr. Rocyn Jones reports that fifty-seven milk samples were taken in your area during the year 1937 under the Food and Drugs Act.

Two of these samples were found to be not up to standard, one being 18.67% deficient in fat; and the other 10.67% deficient in fat. The vendor was cautioned in each instance.

Factories and Workshops.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1937, for the Urban District of Abertillery, on the Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1911, in connection with Factories, Workshops, Workplaces, and Homework.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND WORKPLACES.

Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Prem ses.	Inspections	Written Notices.	Occupiers' Prosecuted.
Factories 	77	1	—
(Including Factory Laundries)			
Workshops 	32	1	—
(Including Workshop Laundries.)			
Workplaces 	—	—	—
(Other than Outworkers Premises)			
Total	109	2	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Insp.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :— *</i>				
Want of cleanliness	1	1	...	..
Want of ventilation	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...
Want of drainage of floors	...	...	...	...
Other nuisances	...	...	...	...
Sanitary accommodation	insufficient	...	...	...
	unsuitable or defective	1	1	...
	not separate for sexes	...	..	...
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	...	...	...	..
Other offences— (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops transfer of Powers) Order, 1921)	...	...	...	...
Total	2	2	...	...

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7, and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

3.—HOMEWORK. None recognised.

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on Register at end of year.	Number.
Dressmakers and Milliners	6
Shoemakers and Repairers	10
Tailors	1
Wheelwrights, Carpenters, etc.	4
Bakehouses (retail)	19
Saddlers and Harness Makers	1
Artificial Teeth Makers	3
Laundries	1
Motor Repairers	2
Printers	3
Undertakers	3
Total	53
Registered Fried Fish Shops	20

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	No.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories:—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshops Acts (s. 133, 1901)	—
Action taken in matters referred by H. M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts (s. 5, 1901):—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	—
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector ...	—
Other	—
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) in use at end of year	—

Common Lodging Houses.

There were formerly three registered common lodging houses, one situate in Alma Street, one at Royal Oak, Llanhilleth, and the other at Crumlin.

The one situate in Alma Street has been converted into a Social Club, and that at Royal Oak abandoned.

The only registered premise is that at Crumlin, which is kept clean and in good repair.

Pit-Head Baths.

So far, the only pit-head bath established is that in connection with the Rose Heyworth Colliery.

This establishment is working satisfactorily and is proving a great boon to those engaged in the industry.

Other pit-head baths are required, but I expect progress in this direction is being hampered by the continuous and prolonged depression in the coalfield.

Swimming Baths.

There are three swimming baths in this area—one situate in the Park at Abertillery, and controlled by the Abertillery U.D.C.—one situate at Six Bells, controlled by the Six Bells Swimming Baths Committee—and the other which is covered, is controlled by the Powells Tillery Institute Committee, and is situate in Division Street.

The two former are open-air baths.

The open-air bath in the Park is 90 ft. x 30 ft. and contains 88,594 gallons of water. It was constructed in the year 1900. The fresh water in this bath runs in continually, is sand filtered and occasionally treated with chloros. This bath is open from April to September. There is a common dressing-room, but no eubicles.

The provision of eubicles and certain other additions would greatly improve the facilities provided here.

The local Education Authority make an annual payment to the Powells Tillery Institute Committee for the use of their bath for the swimming instruction of the school children.

The Six Bells Lido was constructed by the voluntary labour of the unemployed, and has made quite a useful acquisition to the district in which it is situate.

Copy of return sent to Ministry of Health, Welsh Board of Health, City Hall, Cardiff, on existing swimming baths in the Urban District of Abertillery.

1. Date of Construction 1900.
2. Open -air or Covered. Open-air.
3. Cost of Construction. Information not available.
4. Capacity :
 - (a) Dimensions 90ft. x 30ft.
 - (b) Gallonage to fill ... 88,594.
 - (c) No. of bathers provided for 30.
5. Method of Purification. Sand Filter and use of Chloros.
6. How often changed. Fresh water runs in continually —outlet being kept open approx. 3ft. depth of water let out over week-end for replenishing.
7. Source of Water Supply. Local.
 - (a) If local, estimated flow. 30/60 gallson per minute according to season.
 - (b) If purchased, cost per 1,000 gallons. (Annual easement for water right).
8. Laundry facilities (if any). None.
9. Number of cubicles. None.
10. Any other dressing accommodation provided. General room and roof over. Accommodation for 30.
11. Number of Staff engaged. One.
 - (a) Male. Wages paid. 1/2 per hour.
 - (b) Female. Wages paid. None.
 - (c) Summer. Winter. Summer season only.
12. Duration of open period April to September.

Meteorological Records.

**SUMMARY OF DAILY RECORDS TAKEN AT NEW
CEMETERY AND THE PARK, 1937.**

MONTH.	THE PARK.		NEW CEMETERY.		
			Sunshine.	Temperature.	
	Inches.	Rain Days	Hours.	Highest.	Lowest.
January ..	9.64	24	25.6	58.8	21.5
February ..	10.21	24	39.7	52.6	23.0
March ..	5.75	18	87.9	53.0	16.0
April ..	4.50	18	94.5	67.4	26.0
May ..	2.37	11	179.4	73.0	30.0
June ..	1.28	15	119.1	77.0	32.0
July ..	4.18	19	88.9	75.0	35.0
August ..	1.49	5	116.7	81.6	39.4
September ...	2.60	14	148.3	72.5	30.0
October ..	5.72	12	60.6	67.6	27.0
November ..	2.96	11	83.8	59.0	15.0
December ...	4.68	18	33.2	51.9	14.0

Total Inches for Year = 55.38 Rain Days = 169

Total Hours of Sunshine = 1127.7 recorded.

Highest Temperature for Year = 81.6

Lowest Temperature for Year = 14.0

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Chairman - - - Councillor J. E. DAY.

Vice-Chairman - Councillor W. E. HARDWICK

All Members of the Council compose this Committee.

Director of Education - - Rees Rees, Esq.

Clerks - R. A. Frampton, W. A. Rogers and J. Phipps.

Employment of Children Officer - D. T. Bond.

Day of Meeting—Last Monday in each Month at 5.30 p.m.

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND SCHOOL CLINIC SUB-COMMITTEE.

Councillor GODFREY JONES, *Chairman*.

All members of the Committee together with co-opted members
comprise this Committee.

**Day of Meeting—Friday following Second Monday
in each Month at 6 p.m.**

PROVISION OF MEALS SUB-COMMITTEE.

Councillor G. H. JONES, *Chairman*.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT STAFF.

School Medical Officer :	T. Baillie Smith, M.B., Ch.B. (Glasgow), D.P.H. (Camb.)
Dental Surgeon :	W. S. Hazell, L.D.S. (Eng.)
Registered Dentist (1921)	Miss F. Mason.
Clinic Nurse :	Miss F. Mason, Cert. Trained Nurse, C.M.B.
School Nurse :	Miss M. E. Hayes.
Clerk to Medical Officer :	Stanley E. Thomas.
Supervisor of School Cleaning :	J. Emlyn Blissett.

Abertillery Urban District Council.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

The Schools.

The following Tables give particulars as to the number of schools, together with the details of accommodation, number of pupils on roll, and average attendance.

Elementary Schools.

	Permanent Council Schools,	Permanent Non- Provided Schools.	Total.
Number of Schools ...	15	1	16
Number of Departments ...	24	2	26
Number on Roll ...	4,797	174	4,971

School.	Dept.	Accommodation.	Average Attendances.
Abertillery Central	Boys	368	232
	Girls	396	184
	Infants	353	172
Church of England	Mixed	223	84
	Infants	177	74
Aberbeeg	Mixed and Infants	327	140
Arael	Mixed	404	158
	Infants	168	111
Blaenau Gwent	Infants	300	156
Blaentillery	Mixed	434	178
	Infants	185	112

Brynhyfryd Central	Mixed	356	241
Bryngwyn Central	Mixed	240	214
Sofrydd, Crumlin	Mixed and Infants	300	231
Cwmtillery	Boys	366	175
	Girls	333	135
Gelli Crug Central	Mixed	430	319
	Infants	396	194
Llanhilleth	Mixed	360	178
	Infants	169	88
Queen Street	Mixed	393	233
	Infants	372	183
Six Bells	Mixed	326	135
	Infants	135	83
Ty'r Graig	Mixed	430	255
	Infants	330	189
Total accommodation		8,271	
Number on Roll ...		4,971	

**REPORT OF WORK CARRIED OUT TO SCHOOL
BUILDINGS DURING THE YEAR ENDED
31st DECEMBER, 1937.**

The usual periodical attention has been given to all the Schools and appurtenant buildings under this Authority during the past twelve months, and sundry repair work carried out from time to time include :—

Roofs, doors, desks, windows, ventilators, sweeping of chimneys, floors, water closets, stove and pipes, partitions, pictures and cords, blackboards, cupboards, shelves, etc.

SPECIAL WORKS.

In addition to the above maintenance work, the following additional works have been carried out by the Authority's own Staff at the various Schools :—

BLAENTILLERY MIXED.

As there was a possibility of children injuring themselves against the rough edges of the corrugated sheets lining the wooden Classrooms in the yard, 11" x 1" boards have been placed at the foot of the sheets. The sheeting and all external wood-work receiving two coats of paint.

A partition and two shelves have been fixed in the coal-house at this School or store fire-lighters.

BLAENTILLERY INFANTS.

New Conveniences for the Nursery Class have been constructed of 9" brickwork, cemented externally and internally, the W.C.s., etc., being connected up to the existing main drain. A new window has been fixed so that the maximum light is obtained in the Cloakroom, and all new work has been painted, the blue bricks in the yard being made good.

A new drain has been laid from the Private Convenience to the main drain and portions of the tiling in the Cloakroom refixed.

CWMTILLERY BOYS AND GIRLS.

Repairs have been carried out to the stone-work supporting the fencing on the main road and the wall in the yard. A portion of the floor in the private room has been renewed. A rack has also been erected in required position for the purpose of drying children's clothes.

In the Girls' Department, a new fire-grate has been fixed in one of the classrooms.

GELLI CRUG CENTRAL.

The whole of the yards at this School have been reformed and resurfaced with Bituminous Macadam.

Thirty-two roof ladders for the lead roofs have been fixed where required.

GELLI CRUG INFANTS.

The whole of the yards here have been reformed and resurfaced with Bituminous Macadam, and all the Manhole Covers and Gullies, etc., raised to suit new levels.

A new sand-pit has been paid in the Baby Room.

Twelve new ladders have been fixed in position on the flat roofs and in the valleys.

BLAENAU GWENT INFANTS.

Eight snow ladders have been made and fixed along the lead gutters and flats.

A site has been prepared at this School for the beds connected with the Nursery Class to be placed in the open air. The grass in the field at the rear of the Feeding Centre has been cut and an area of 50 feet by 10 feet levelled off and laid over with tarmac. In addition, a sand-pit has been made 11 feet square, with a concrete base and wire guard top. About 150 feet of old fencing has been fixed closing this field off from the entrance to the Feeding Centre, and gates placed where required.

ABERTILLERY JUNIOR BOYS.

Portions of the playground here have been reformed and resurfaced with Bituminous Macadam.

ABERTILLERY JUNIOR GIRLS.

Two new windows have been fixed in the Classroom on the first floor, set with 24 panes of glass, and given two coats of paint; two new window sills have been fixed and all plastering made good around the window frames.

The playground at this School has been treated with Cold Emulsion and overlaid with chippings.

A new gully trap has been fixed in place of a hip trap in the Girls' W.C.

ABERTILLERY INFANTS.

The yards here have been surface-sprayed with Cold Emulsion, overlaid with chippings.

The pine-end of an adjoining house opposite a class-room of this School has been cement-washed and five panes of obscure glass have been removed and clear glass substituted. These works have considerably improved the natural lighting in this room.

QUEEN STREET MIXED.

One of the gable ends of this School has been repaired, four new fascia and capping boards being fixed and painted two coats of paint.

A new tank has been fixed in the W.C.

Defective portions of this School's playground have been reformed and resurfaced with Bituminous Macadam.

QUEEN STREET INFANTS.

A new large window has been renewed and fitted with 12 panes of glass, sash cords and fastener, all work being painted. Eight dozen silencers have been fixed on the chairs here and a new sand-pit made.

A new $\frac{3}{4}$ " matchboard partition, 8ft. x $7\frac{1}{2}$ ft. has been erected in the Baby Room, and the whole of the room painted internally.

Extensive repairs have been carried out to the gable ends of the roof here; new fascia and capping boards having been fixed and new troughing and rain-water pipes where required.

New ventilators have also been fixed where required at this School.

The new room required for the Nursery Class has been provided, a part of the lobby partitioned off and a door and frame made in the Classroom wall. Three matchboard partitions have been constructed, one 17ft. long by $6\frac{1}{2}$ ft. with door, and two 10ft. by 1ft. leading out of the lobby. All woodwork and plaster has been made good and two coats of paint applied.

Two W.C. pans with flushtanks and one lavatory basin have been provided, together with drain and water fittings.

One doorway had to be stopped up and the recess converted into a cupboard.

In one of the Classrooms, to increase the natural lighting, 20 panes of Muraneese glass were taken out and clear glass substituted.

Three squares of matchboard have been fixed on the railings opposite the two Classrooms facing Princess Street, the outside being painted brown and the inside white, and the wall white-washed so as to further improve the light.

Two dozen clips for Hair Brushes have been fixed for the requirements of the Nursery Class.

ARAEI MIXED.

A new private room for the Head Teacher has been constructed at this School, matchboard dado has been fixed to a height of 1ft. and seven window frames containing 64 panes of glass. All woodwork received two coats of stain and one of varnish.

The old fire-grate in the Head Teachers' room has been taken out and a new Gas-fire installed, the surrounds being made good.

ARAEI INFANTS.

A new private room for the Head Teacher has also been provided in this Department, matchboard dado being fixed to a

height of 4ft. with five window frames having 48 panes of glass. All woodwork given two coats of stain and varnish, and a new Gas-fire installed.

SIX BELLS MIXED.

The Boys' conveniences at this School were rebuilt by the Contractor on the completion of the building of the new Mass Concrete Retaining Wall. New W.C. pans and flush tanks being installed with a new connection to the existing drain.

The playgrounds were made good, the entrance road repaired and the entrance gates cleaned off and painted.

ABERBEEG MIXED.

Electric light has been installed in the new Master's Room adjoining the Cloakroom and lino laid on the floor; a new yard gully and drain has been laid for the roof-water, together with troughing, etc., and the inside of the Hut stained and varnished, and the outside painted.

A small matchboard partition has been fixed outside the door of this room.

The unclimable fencing at the rear of the School House has been repaired, a concrete coping being fixed to support same.

TYR GRAIG MIXED AND INFANTS.

Portions of the playground here have been reformed and resurfaced with Bituminous Macadam.

LLANHILLETH MIXED AND INFANTS.

A new stove with necessary ventilation pipes has been fixed in the wooden Classroom.

SOFRYD MIXED AND INFANTS.

A length of Chestnut Pale Fencing has been placed to prevent sheep entering the Plantation here, and three large wooden frames constructed for training rose-trees.

The front doors have been painted and varnished, and the fencing and troughing cleaned down and painted.

Defective portions of the yard at this School have been reformed and resurfaced with Bituminous Macadam.

BRYNHYFRYD CENTRAL.

A pair of double doors (with one small door) have been fixed at the entrance to the playground of this School, with all necessary locks and bolts, and painted three coats of paint.

In the Boy's Cloakroom six new taps have been fixed.

FEEDING CENTRES.**BLAENAU GWENT.**

The entrance doors at this Centre have been repaired, and a new pair of knobs fixed. Four new ventilators have been fixed in the foundation walls.

Some repairs have been done to the drainage here and a new concrete step fixed.

COMMERCIAL ROAD.

Fixed new pipes on back of boilers.

BLAENTILLERY.

New back fixed in stove.

An improvement to the existing drainage at this Centre has been made by the building of a new Inspection Chamber.

BRYNGWYN.

The floor of the Centre has been repaired.

PAINTING OF SCHOOLS.

The following buildings were painted during the year :—

(a). By Contract :

Abertillery Boys, Girls and Infants		Outside only.
Church Mixed and Infants	...	Inside and Outside.
Queen St. Mixed and Infants		Outside only.
Six Bells Infants		Inside and Outside.
Brynhyfryd Central		Inside and Outside.

(b). By Direct Labour :

Blaentillery Classroom and Hut	Outside only.
Blaenau Gwent Infants	 Outside only.

SANITATION AND HEATING.

All drains and gullies have been kept clear and yards cleaned periodically. All windows have been cleaned from time to time, various walls whitewashed, and disinfectants distributed.

Coal and lighting material has been regularly supplied (some 513 tons of Coal, 15 tons of Coke and 190 gross of Firelighters being used) and everything possible done to keep the Schools in good repair and in a sanitary condition.

GENERAL.

Water meters have been read weekly, and records scheduled. Repair work on the Schools this year has been of an average compared with previous years.

It is pleasing to note that the Authority has again been able to set up a few Nursery Classes, which are much appreciated by the Parents of the Children, and specially prepare the Children for continuation in the Junior Schools.

A. GORDON JONES,
Engineer and Surveyor,
and Inspector of Schools Buildings.

School Cleaning.

Frequent and regular visits are paid to the various departments of each school by the Senior Sanitary Inspector, who is the supervisor of the school cleaners. Monthly reports are presented to the special committee.

The use of Dusmo is continued in all schools for floor cleaning, and where it is properly used the floors are in excellent condition, but they do not look as clean as when they were scrubbed bi-weekly.

The use of Dusmo minimises the amount of dust in the atmosphere and saves much dusting of furniture and walls.

The regular spraying of the floors and desks with mixed disinfectant in the form of a fine spray does not impair the value of the use of Dusmo, but increases its disinfecting power.

The schools are kept in a fair state of cleanliness and there is no evidence of infectious disease being spread through the schools.

Feeding Centres.

Special attention is given to the cleanliness of floors, benches, tables, utensils, etc., in the feeding centres, and these are kept in good condition.

The cooking apparatus is cleansed daily, and so far there has been no evidence of food-taint.

The crockery and the utensils used in service are thoroughly cleaned after each meal.

The thorough cleanliness of each feeding centre is a matter of prime importance.

The Feeding Centres are sprayed with disinfectants three times a week throughout the year. Should infectious disease appear in the School from which the children attending these Centres are fed, then they are disinfected daily, in the evening.

INFANT AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.—There are three Infant and Child Welfare Centres under the control of the Monmouthshire County Council.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.	Where Situate.	Nature of Accommodation.	Weekly Session.
1. Abertillery ...	Old Police Station (Tillery Street).	One Consulting Room and other Rooms.	Fridays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
2. Llanbilleth ...	Workmen's Institute.	ditto	Mondays 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
3. Six Bells ...	Primitive Methodist Chapel.	ditto	Wednesdays 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The above table shows the places and the hours at which the Centres are held.

Two Health Visitors are employed under the auspices of the Monmouthshire County Council for this particular work. Occasional help is supplied when necessary.

The children attending these Centres are mostly under two years of age, but quite a considerable number round the age of 3 years also attend.

The physically and mentally defective children are reported to the County Medical Officer, and if necessary, those cases are referred by him to the London Orthopaedic Hospital or other suitable institutions.

Three orthopaedic cases which were operated on and treated under the auspices of the Child Welfare Centres have now reached five years of age and are now under the care of the Local Education Authority.

The mental defective children are also kept under observation.

Children suspected as suffering from various form of tuberculosis are referred to Dr. Glyn Jones, Tuberculosis Physician.

By special arrangement, the first Wednesday of each month is set aside for the examination of school children.

The School Medical Service in relation to Public Elementary Schools.

3.—SCHOOL HYGIENE.

Considerable care is given by the Education Committee to the hygienic conditions of the schools. Most of the schools are of comparatively modern type, are efficiently ventilated and equipped, and their surroundings satisfactory. The Church of England School, Llanbilleth Mixed and Cwmtillery Schools are very old-fashioned, and require replacing by modern and up-to-date schools.

A new school, both Mixed and Infants, was opened at Crumlin on 1st December, 1931, providing accommodation for all children in that area.

The heating of many classrooms in various schools could be greatly improved. A system of central heating should be installed in some schools. Certain steps are now being taken to improve the heating.

Sanitary conveniences and lavatories are mostly up-to-date, and kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

Cloak-rooms are attached to most schools, but there are no proper arrangements for the drying of children's clothing and boots.

Water supply for washing and drinking purposes is laid on to all schools. In no school is a supply of hot water available for the children. The Authority are carefully watching the quantity of water recorded by meter used in all schools as considerable discrepancies exist.

Medical Inspection.

4. Description of arrangements made and adopted for the Medical Inspection of Children.

Organisation and Supervision.

The Clinic and Medical Inspection Committee control the Medical Inspection of School Children. The Medical Officer presents a report of the work done each month to this Committee, and also brings to their notice any relevant matter.

The School Nurse assists in the Medical Inspection.

Apparatus.

Each school, except two, is provided with a Weighing Machine, with height standard attached, so that height and weight may be taken together.

SCHEDULE.—Record Cards are kept in accordance with the Schedule recommended by the Board of Education, and additional spaces have been provided for recording special examinations and treatment carried out at the School and Dental Clinics.

Registers in which children are grouped according to sex and age are kept at the office for each school department. Columns are provided for recording the date of successive inspections and the medical history of the child. The registers are kept up-to-date by the head teacher supplying me with lists of entrants and leavers. A survey of the registers reveals at once the number of children that are due for medical inspection.

SCHOOL NURSES.—Prior to Medical Inspection arrangements are made for its due execution by the Nurse visiting the head teachers. The presence of parents and the history of each child are recorded. The Nurse also weighs and measures the child prior to medical examination.

School Arrangements.

It is always the desire of your Medical Officer to upset the school routine as little as possible. Special rooms ought to be provided in each school, and set apart for Medical Inspection and other examinations of children, so that the examination could be conducted in absolute privacy.

Number of Visits.

The following visits were paid to the schools and the homes of the children during 1937:—

A.—To Schools and Departments.**By Medical Officer :—**

<i>a.</i>	For systematic inspection	...	111
<i>b.</i>	For re-inspections, special examinations, enquiries concerning infectious diseases, sanitary inspections, etc.		239
Total			250

By School Nurse :—

<i>a.</i>	To assist at systematic inspections...	114
<i>b.</i>	For special inspections, enquiries, etc.	203
Total		317

B.—To Children's Homes—

1.	By Medical Officer	...	219
2.	By School Nurse ..	...	238
Total			457

The schedule of the Board of Education for Medical Inspection is followed as closely as possible.

Return of Medical Inspections for 1937.

TABLE I.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Code Group Inspections—

Entrants	...	...	...	638
Second Age Group	...	...	...	609
Third Age Group	...	...	...	481
Total	...	...	...	<u>1728</u>

Number of other Routine Inspections	...	411
-------------------------------------	-----	-----

Grand Total	...	...	...	<u>2139</u>
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B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	2998
Number of Re-Inspections	...	...	<u>574</u>

Total	...	...	...	<u>3572</u>
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Fitness for Swimming	...	...	894
----------------------	-----	-----	-----

School Camps (Children Examined)	...	1064
----------------------------------	-----	------

Total	...	...	...	<u>1958</u>
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C.—CHILDREN FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Number of individual children found at Routine Medical Inspection to Require Treatment (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).

Group.	For defective vision (excluding squint).	For all other con- ditions recorded in Table II A.	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants ..	19	179	189
Second Age Group	70	129	169
Third Age Group	56	99	107
Total (Prescribed			
Groups)	<u>145</u>	<u>407</u>	<u>465</u>
Other Routine Inspections	47	69	87
Grand Total	<u>192</u>	<u>476</u>	<u>552</u>

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS.

TABLE II.

A.—Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended 31st December, 1937.

Defect or Disease	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
	No. of Defects.		No. of Defects	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation; but not requiring Treatment.	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment
1	2	3	4	5
SKIN :—				
Ringworm ...	...	...	...	...
Scalp ...	1	1	2	—
Body ...	2	—	2	—
Scabies ...	5	1	63	3
Impetigo ...	19	1	49	2
Other Diseases Non-T.B. ...	73	2	198	3
Total (Heads 1 to 5). ...	100	5	311	8
EYE :—				
Blepharitis ...	16	2	26	2
Conjunctivitis ...	17	—	58	2
Keratitis ...	2	—	2	1
Corneal Opacities ...	1	1	1	—
Other Conditions (excluding Defective Vision & Squint)...	21	1	4	1
Total (Heads 6 to 10). ...	57	1	91	6
Defective Vision (excluding Squint) ...	122	1	39	1
Squint ...	32	1	9	1
EAR :—				
Defective Hearing ...	15	1	18	1
Otitis Media ...	31	2	37	1
Other Ear Diseases ...	1	1	18	1
NOSE & THROAT :—				
Chronic Tonsillitis only ...	308	99	31	2
Adenoids only ...	20	—	17	—
Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids ...	23	—	49	—
Other Conditions ...	25	17	33	2
Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous) ...	9	3	17	1
Defective Speech ...	19	1	5	2

TABLE II.—*Continued.*

Defect or Disease.	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
	No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring Treatment.	Requiring Treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring Treatment.
1	2	3	4	5
HEART & CIRCULATION :				
Heart Disease —				
Organic	6	14	13	6
Functional	15	4	21	1
Anæmia	45	3	109	1
LUNGS :—				
Bronchitis	186	19	181	2
Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases	3	2	22	1
TUBERCULOSIS :—				
Pulmonary—				
Definite	—	—	1	1
Suspected	3	—	16	3
Non-Pulmonary—				
Glands	1	2	1	1
Bones and Joints	—	—	2	1
Skin... ..	—	—	—	—
Other Forms	3	—	3	1
Total (heads 29 to 32.)	4	2	6	3
NERVOUS SYSTEM :—				
Epilepsy... ..	3	—	4	1
Chorea	5	1	12	2
Other Conditions	14	2	28	4
DEFORMITIES :—				
Rickets	2	1	—	1
Spinal Curvature	3	1	2	—
Other Forms	16	9	23	12
Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases)	178	16	351	27
Total number of defects.	1335	212	1472	91

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS.

B.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF
CHILDREN INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE
ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.

Age-groups	Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	638	15	2.3	572	89.7	51	7.9	—	—
Second Age group	609	61	9.9	516	84.7	32	5.2	—	—
Third Age group	481	295	61.3	171	36.1	12	2.4	—	—
Other Routine Inspections	111	108	10.8	229	55.7	14	3.4	—	—
	2139	539	25.6	1491	65.0	109	5.0	—	—

BOARD OF EDUCATION

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS.

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1937.

TABLE III.

RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN THE AREA.

BLIND CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institution.	At no School, or Institution.	Total
1	—	—	—	1

PARTIALLY SIGHTED CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Certified Schools for the Partially Sighted.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School, or Institution.	Total
—	—	1	—	1	2

DEAF CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School. or Institutions.	Total
5	—	—	1	6

PARTIALLY DEAF CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf.	At Certified Schools for the Partially Deaf.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School. or Institution.	Total
—	—	2	—	—	2

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

FEEBLE-MINDED CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School. or Institution.	Total
—	4	—	1	5

EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM SEVERE EPILEPSY.

At Certified Special Schools	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School. or Institution.	Total
—	2	—	1	3

PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

A. TUBERCULOUS CHILDREN.

1.—CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS. (INCLUDING PLEURA AND INTRA-THORACIC GLANDS).

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School. or Institution.	Total
—	—	—	3	3

II.—CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School. or Institutions.	Total
—	1	—	2	3

B. DELICATE CHILDREN.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School. or Institution.	Total
—	119	2	2	123

C. CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School. or Institution.	Total
—	2	—	1	3

D. CHILDREN WITH HEART DISEASE.

At Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School. or Institution.	Total
—	2	—	1	3

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CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM MULTIPLE DEFECTS.

Combination of Defect.	At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
Mentally Defec- tive associated with Epilepsy and Paralysis.	—	1	—	1	2

Findings of Medical Inspection:—

Table II. shows details of diseases and defects found at routine and special inspections to require treatment or to be kept under observation.

(a). MALNUTRITION.

Owing to the prolonged industrial depression from which this area has suffered, it is consequently incumbent on your staff to keep a keen look-out for any cases of malnutrition. The feeding of the school-children as carried out by the Local Education Authority on a dietary approved by the Board of Education, is doing much to combat the condition. The supply of milk to necessitous children is also another valuable factor.

Cod-Liver Oil and Parrish's Food are supplied where required on the recommendation of the School Medical Officer, from the various School Clinics.

No marked case of pure malnutrition was discovered on inspection. The nutrition of the school children definitely improves from entry to school leaving age.

(b). UNCLEANLINESS.

Two girls were found on Medical Inspection with unclean heads.

One boy and one girl were found with bodies unclean.

One girl was found with body flea-bitten, and one boy was found in a similar condition.

The cleanliness of the heads and bodies of the children has shown a great improvement since the institution of Medical Inspection. Naturally when the parents have warning of Medical Inspection, as they always have by notice, it follows that a great many of the "defaulters" are cleaned up for the occasion. The School Nurse pays regular visits to the various schools for the examination of the heads and clothing of the children without previous warning, and it is on those occasions that the children who are not cared for in this particular respect are found out. Taking the schools as a whole it is remarkable how clean and well cared for the majority of the children are. The families who cause the trouble are well known to your officers, and they are dealt with as occasion arises.

33 boys and 23 girls were found attending school whose clothing was very poor and deficient. Out of this number the parents of 14 boys and 10 girls were unemployed.

12 boys and 9 girls were found at school whose footgear was in a very bad state. In most of these cases the little children had practically no boots at all, so bad was the condition of their footgear. Out of this number the parents of 6 boys and 5 girls were unemployed.

The large number of children attending school in unsuitable footgear was especially noted. This is to be accounted for by the very trying economic conditions existing. The condition of the boots and clothing, especially underclothing of girls and boys, is much below the standard that previously existed.

On enquiring into the absences of children from school, one finds the reason given is that the children had not got boots in such a state of repair as to enable them to attend school, especially in inclement weather. The school attendance officers' monthly reports also bring out this fact very vividly. It is a most unfortunate position, as the Education Authority lose considerably in grant from those absences. Unsuitable footgear and clothing cause unnecessary suffering amongst school children.

I often think it would be greatly to the advantage of Education Authorities if the Board of Education would allow them to supply boots after due enquiry, and with considerable discretion, to those deserving cases who are the victims of economic circumstances. This would be to the advantage of the children, also the Authority.

Boots were supplied to children of the unemployed.

(c). MINOR AILMENTS AND DISEASES OF THE SKIN.

Minor ailments consist of cuts, sores, bruises, colds, and indefinite illnesses not classified under subsequent headings. These cases form a large proportion of cases treated at the various clinics as detailed in appended tables.

The skin disease found in the schools was mostly of a mild nature apart from two cases of invertebrate eczma and two of psoriasis.

Three cases of ringworm of the scalp were found and four cases of ring-worm of the body. These cases were treated at the clinics and a cure in each case effected. Subsequent inspections revealed no relapse. The school-children now-a-days are practically free from ring-worm, but careful scrutiny is necessary to prevent it entering the schools.

Inveterate cases of ring-worm of the scalp are not now seen locally.

68 cases of Scabies were found. This disease was recently introduced by the return of young women to their homes from domestic service and subsequent infection of the younger children. The cases were rigidly excluded from School and efficiently treated and the disease thus kept under control. Scabies is a disease which will spread rapidly among school children and this year several of the cases were of a virulent variety and associated with Impetigo.

The children suffering from Scabies were also excluded from feeding centres and from the local baths.

Impetigo was present in 68 cases.

It is only constant inspection, re-inspection, and exclusion from school that will control the various skin diseases.

(d). VISUAL DEFECTS AND EXTERNAL EYE DISEASE.

231 children were found suffering from Defective Vision. In 61 of these cases squint was present.

When a child is found to be suffering from Defective Vision at school, this child is referred to the School Clinic, and the eyes are examined in the dark room for refractive errors, and where necessary, glasses are provided, or operation recommended according to condition found.

It is highly essential that all cases of squint should be attended to as early in life as possible, as the vision of the squinting eye gradually diminishes with time through non-use, and the squinting person practically becomes a 'one-eyed' person.

Suitable glasses alone, apart from operation, cure a large proportion of the cases of Squint, especially when associated with appropriate eye-exercises.

Three cases of squint were treated successfully by atropine-drops being placed in the sound eye over suitable periods.

Three cases of Squint were operated on.

Two cases of Cataract also underwent operation.

Two children lost one eye : result of accident.

Cases of defective vision, after suitable spectacles have been prescribed, must be followed up carefully at intervals of three to six months to correct any alteration that may be required in the lenses. Children are very quick at recognising when glasses require changing, and there is no difficulty in getting them to come at suitable intervals, although some of them do not wear their glasses as regularly as they ought to.

42 cases of Blepharitis and 75 cases of Conjunctivitis were found on Medical Inspection.

Most cases of Conjunctivitis are met with in the spring and summer months, and three of them were of a severe nature.

Two cases of Blepharitis were of a chronic nature, and especially severe cases with palpebral thickening usually follow an attack of Measles. Severe Blepharitis with palpebral thickening is now rarely seen.

In those cases of Chronic Blepharitis if milk is added to the dieting in addition to the appropriate treatment, cure is greatly accelerated, but an occasional case is met with which seems to defy treatment. Overcrowding, lack of fresh air and good food accentuate this condition.

Corneal Opacities were present in two cases.

One case of severe Congenital disease of the Cornea was treated at Royal Gwent Hospital.

(c). NOSE AND THROAT DEFECTS.

From a study of Table II. you will observe the number of children who were found on Medical Inspection to be suffering from Tonsils and Adenoids, or Adenoids only, and other allied conditons. The figures do not need to be repeated here. The number of cases operated on is stated in Table IV., Group iii.

The fact that a child suffers from Tonsils and Adenoids does not necessarily mean that this child requires operation. Re-inspections revealed the fact that in quite a number of cases who as "entrants" suffered from Tonsils and Adenoids, the condition was not found when examined in the "leaver" group. The percentage of Tonsils and Adenoids in children falls considerably in the older groups examined apart from operation.

Quite a number of the entrants examined had undergone the operation before commencing school.

Certain definite conditions have to be found associated with Tonsils and Adenoids before operation is recommended.

All children suffering from marked Tonsils and Adenoids are placed on a special list which is sent to the Secretary of Aberbeeg Hospital. He then calls up those children in rotation to be examined by the Throat and Nose Specialist, who decides for or against operation.

(f). EAR DISEASE AND HEARING.

33 cases of defective hearing were found in children. Otitis Media was found in 68 cases. This common affection (running ears) is usually produced by inflammation of the middle ear in the cours of Scarlet Fever, Pneumonia, Measles, Influenza, etc., or by septic conditions of the throat. The disease has a tendency to become chronic by involving the bones and cavities of the ear. The discharge may be infectious, and is sometimes very offensive.

Its early care is of great importance, for, if neglected, and the disease allowed to become chronic, it may lead to permanent impairment of the hearing, and occasionally to complete deafness. When the disease extends to the mastoid antrum it becomes very serious, and then endangers life, and a major operation is necessary to effect its cure.

The cases of defective hearing met with were mostly of an evanescent nature.

The cases of "running ears" met with are not nearly as severe as they used to be. This is probably accounted for by the fact that those cases are now receiving treatment much earlier than formally, and the fact that the cases of tonsils and adenoids, with which this condition is often associated, are being operated on at an earlier age, and before any permanent damage is done.

(g). DENTAL DEFECTS.

If there is one thing more than another which stands out prominently when doing the medical inspection of school children, it is the great improvement in the teeth of the children. In the elder children especially, it is a pleasure to see the excellent condition of the teeth where satisfactory dental treatment has been provided in earlier school life. It is also rare now to have any complaints of toothache, which a few years ago was one of the commonest complaints met with. The school teachers have also been remarking on this. Some difficulty is

experienced in getting the mothers to bring the younger children unless they suffer from toothache.

The condition of the teeth of some of the young entrants is far from satisfactory, and very variable—some of them having excellent teeth and in others the mouths are in a bad state.

Older children now come of their own accord for dental treatment.

I consider that money spent in the early treatment of dental disease well invested money, and repays many times over the care, work, and energy put into it.

Dental disease is largely preventable. The health and physique of the school child depends to a certain extent on taking effective measures to prevent decay. Suitable dieting helps greatly to prevent dental decay.

When the teeth in early life are allowed to become septic and decayed, such ailments as anaemia, gastritis, rheumatism, tonsillitis, etc., follow in the wake.

The general public are gradually realising the importance of having a sound set of teeth.

Three fundamental truths must be recognised:—

- (I). Permanent teeth are worth preserving.
- (II). The neglect of the temporary teeth causes decay in the permanent.
- (III). Decay, once it has started in a tooth, will end in the ultimate loss of the tooth unless the necessary treatment is undertaken early.

(h) ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

Arrangements have been made with the Prince of Wales Hospital, Cardiff, for dealing with the cases arising in school children.

Orthopaedic treatment is now of a highly technical nature and demands the attention of a specialist. The appointment of an Orthopaedic Specialist is at present under consideration by the Local Education Authority.

Cases dealt with are detailed later in the report.

(i). HEART DISEASE AND RHEUMATISM.

39 cases of Heart Disease were met with. Most of those cases were subsequent to an attack of Rheumatism or Chorea or Tonsillitis. Several cases of Congenital Heart Disease are included in this group. Most of those cases of Congenital

Heart Disease had been under observation since babyhood having been recognised at the Maternity Child Welfare Clinics.

(j). TUBERCULOSIS.

From Dr. J. Glyn Jones' report on the work done at Tuberculosis Dispensary, you will observe that 47 school-children were examined by him during the year, an increase of 2, as compared with the previous year. The School Medical Officer works in close harmony with the Tuberculosis Officers.

The local practitioners are also very much alive to this problem of tuberculosis in childhood, and many cases are referred by them to your Inspection Clinics for observation and also direct to the Tuberculosis Officer.

Younger children who have suffered from such debilitating diseases as Measles or Whooping Cough, especially if followed by Pneumonia or other complications, have to be carefully followed up for the onset of Tuberculosis, as those two diseases especially above all others prepare the soil for invasion by the tubercle bacillus. The early removal of Tonsils and Adenoids, attention to dental condition, and the system of breathing exercises as taught at school, are also powerful preventatives of respiratory diseases, and consequently Tuberculosis.

The value of school medical inspection in the prevention and early detection of tuberculous conditions of all kinds is most marked.

The Tuberculosis Clinic in the Abertillery area formerly dealt with adults (males and females) and children in the same session, but now a separate session is reserved for school-children—the first Wednesday morning of each month.

6. " FOLLOWING UP."

The diseases and defects found on medical inspection are notified either verbally at the examination, or by letter to the parents, and advice given as regards treatment. Those cases are re-inspected by the Doctor or School Nurse at subsequent visits to the Schools, or at the Clinics. Parents are also instructed to bring their children suffering from various defects to the School Clinic for further observation, and it is at the various school clinics that the important work of " following-up " is carried out. 574 routine re-inspections were made at the schools, and the School Medical Officer and School Nurse paid 457 visits to children's homes. This does not include the special visits entailed by " following-up " the orthopaedic cases which are increasing greatly.

8. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Children Excluded.

The following is a summary of the children excluded during 1937.

Under Article 53 (b) (1) of the Code:

REASON FOR EXCLUSION.

	No. of Cases in School Children.		No. of Cases and Contacts Excluded.
	Boys	Girls	
Influenza	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	85	50
Diphtheria	...	...	2
Whooping Cough	...	2	2
Chicken Pox	...	3	5
Chorea	...	2	2
Ringworm	...	...	...
Impetigo, Eczema, etc.	...	7	9
Tubercular Diseases	...	...	2
Rheumatism	...	2	7
Heart Trouble	...	1	5
Bronchitis, etc.	...	3	3
Anaemia	...	1	5
Miscellaneous	..	9	13
	65	105	259

Under 53 (b) (2) of the Code:

REASON FOR EXCLUSION.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Body unclean	...	—	—
Head verminous, etc.	...	2	2
	—	2	2
	—	—	—

Excluded under Article 53 (b) (3) Sch. iv., 7:

REASON FOR EXCLUSION.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Tubercular Diseases ...	1	2	3
Chorea ...	1	1	2
Heart Disease ...	—	1	1
Bronchial Asthma ...	—	2	2
	2	6	8

7. MEDICAL TREATMENT.
(c). MINOR AILMENTS.

1 Abertillery	Council Offices, Abertillery.	Waiting Room, Treatment, Clinic, Dark Room for Eye-sight and Throat, and Nose Work, Inspection Clinic Work.	Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday mornings, 9.30 to 12 a.m.
2 Llanbilleth	Workmen's Institute.	Waiting Room Treatment Clinic, and Inspection Clinic Room.	Thursday mornings 10 a.m. to 12 a.m.
3. Cwmllin.	Sofrydd School, Cwmllin.	Special Room.	1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month, 10 a.m. to 12 a.m.

The above table shows the facilities which exist for the treatment of minor ailments. The situation of the Centres is well chosen, and involve a minimum amount of travelling for the school children, with consequent loss of minimum amount of time from school duties.

The Llanbilleth Centre is held at the Workmen's Institute, in Llanbilleth. These rooms are large, and well ventilated, and make a much better clinic centre than the congested and unsuitable premises where the principal clinic is held in Abertillery.

The clinic premises at Llanbilleth were opened on the 1st of April, 1925

A study of Treatment Table—Group I. Minor Ailments, will show how greatly the advantage is taken of the facilities provided by the Authority.

(f). EAR DISEASE AND HEARING.

149 cases of Minor Ear Defects were referred to the Clinic.

DENTAL DEFECTS.

See Special Table.

9. OPEN-AIR EDUCATION.

There are no open-air classrooms, day open-air schools, or residential open-air schools under the Authority.

SCHOOL CAMPS, 1937.

A total number of 750 children, in attendance at schools under the control of the Authority enjoyed a holiday at the Camps established under the National Council of Social Service at Barry, Rhooose and Pembrey.

PENDINE SCHOOL CAMP.

132 children attended the Pendine School Camp.

This is preventive medicine at its best.

Playground classes and school journeys are held in the summer months when the weather is propitious.

Throughout the area there is a great lack of proper facilities for taking advantage of open-air education. Much more could be done in this direction, and this point should be carefully considered by the Authority.

10. PHYSICAL TRAINING.

There is no area organiser of physical training. The physical training is carried out at the schools by the teachers.

Provision of Meals.

The Provision of Meals to necessitous school children has been continued throughout the year.

SCHOOL DIETARY.

Monday : Dinner—Lentil Soup, Stewed Dried Fruit.

Tea—Bread and Butter, Cake, Milk.

Tuesday : Dinner—Boiled Beef, Potatoes and Haricot Beans.

Tea—Bread and Butter, Jam, Milk.

Wednesday : Dinner—Pea Soup from Tuesday's Stock, Boiled Rice and Jam.

Tea—Bread and Butter, Banana Sandwich, Milk.

Thursday : Dinner—Minced Meat and Potatoes, Boiled Pudding with raisins.

Tea—Bread and Butter, Milk.

Friday : Dinner—Boiled Fish, Mashed Potatoes, Suet Pudding.

Tea—Bread and Butter, Cake, Milk.

Saturday : Dinner—Minced Meat and Hot Potatoes, Bread Pudding.

Fresh Milk only to be used.

One and a half ounce of Bread to be supplied with each mid-day meal. Cheese is now provided on one day per week. Apples and oranges provided occasionally when in season; also Rhubarb, etc.

Hot Cocoa is provided at tea-time during winter months, and milk during the summer months.

All food is distributed to the various Feeding Centres from a Central Depot under the supervision of D. T. Bond, Esq.

Food is supplied according to tenders which are revised every two months.

The numbers of meals supplied were as follows:—

Name of Centre. Supervisor	To cater for Children attending	No. of Meals
Blaenau Gwent : Mr E. J. Silcox	Abertillery Boys " Girls " Infants Cwmtilly Boys " Grls Blaenau Gwent Infants	103,803
Blaentillery : Mr. R. Richards	Blaentillery Mixed " Infants	35,028
Rhiw Parc : Mr. F. Thomas	Gellicrug Mixed " Infants Church of England Mixed " Infants	109,736
Bryngwyn : Mr Geo. Rogers and Mr O. Humphries	Six Bells Infants Bryngwyn Mixed Queen Street Mixed " Infants	89,602
Arael : Mr. F. Hayter	Arael Mixed " Infants Six Bells Mixed	61,057
Commercial Road, Llanhilleth : Mr J. E Williams and Mr. Ivor Venn.	Aberbeeg Mixed " Infants Ty'r Graig Mixed " Infants Brynhyfryd Mixed " Infants Llanhilleth Mixed " Infants	118,387
Crumlin Mrs. H. Williams.	Crumlin Mixed & Infants	31,522
Total Meals ...		549,130

SWIMMING INSTRUCTION.

Swimming instruction was provided at the bath situate in the Tillery Institute, Abertillery, and pupils from the three Central Schools—Gelli Crug, Bryngwyn, and Brynhyfryd—received such instruction.

894 children were examined re their fitness to attend swimming instruction. 111 children were rejected temporarily or permanently for various causes. Many of the children, especially the older girls cease to attend as the season advances.

Remarkable progress was made in swimming by a large percentage of the children.

The bath, etc., was regularly inspected by your School Medical Officer and Sanitary Inspector to see that the water was kept clean and at proper temperature, and that adequate facilities were provided for the comfort of the children.

The bath water was analysed chemically and also for bacteriological content.

Parents, or other Responsible Persons present at Medical Inspections.

	Number Ex- amined.	Parents, etc., present.		Mother.	Father.	Guardian.	Grand- parents.	Aunt.	Sister or Brother.	Friend.
		No.	Per cent							
Entrants ...	638	625	97.9	518	20	2	24	18	28	15
2nd Age Group...	609	530	87.0	433	30	—	15	13	24	15
3rd Age Group...	481	228	47.4	190	12	—	4	1	16	5
Specials ...	2998	2212	73.7	1862	236	8	5	9	60	32
Other Routine Inspections ...	411	272	66.1	226	10	4	3	4	17	8
Total ...	5137	3867	75.2	3229	308	14	51	45	145	75

14. CO-OPERATION OF TEACHERS.

Head Teachers and Staff willingly co-operate in Medical Inspection, and give all possible assistance such as sending out the notices to parents, provision of suitable room for medical examination, etc.

The advice on the mental standard of the various scholars, given by Headmasters and Teachers, is most valuable.

Many children suffering especially from defective vision and hearing are referred by the teaching staff to the School Medical Officer.

Lists of scholars who are irregular in attendance are also sent from the various head teachers to the office for further enquiries.

Returns of Infectious Disease cases are also forwarded weekly, or as necessary.

15. CO-OPERATION OF ATTENDANCE OFFICERS.

Four School Attendance Officers were at one time employed by the Local Education Committee—each officer being allocated to a special area.

At present only one Attendance Officer is employed.

The assistance of the officer in the following particulars is very much appreciated.

1. Returns of admitted children.
2. Tracing of transfers.
3. Reporting of infectious cases among absentees.
4. Enquiries re the Mentally Defective and Physically Defective Children.
5. Referring of children as regards their fitness to attend school.
6. Malingering among school children encouraged by parents.

7. Neglected children.
8. Enquiries *re* necessitous children.

T. Harris, Esq., the Senior Attendance Officer, retired during the year.

16. CO-OPERATION OF VOLUNTARY BODIES.

The School Medical Officer works in co-operation with the Inspector of the N.S.P.C.C., especially in cases of cruelty to children. Much valuable work is being done by Inspector W. Stephens in the welfare of children.

There are no Children's Aid Association or Guilds of Help.

The monthly report of the Attendance Officers brought the fact prominently before the Authority that a large number of attendances were being lost annually, with considerable loss of grant, owing to the fact that children could not attend school owing to want of suitable and efficient foot-gear.

Two Nursery Classes have been established.

19-20. SECONDARY AND CONTINUATION SCHOOLS.

These schools are under the control of the Monmouthshire County Council.

22. SPECIAL INQUIRIES.

The amount of routine work demanded in this large area leaves little time for special enquiries.

Any amount of material exists and there are many directions in which profitable special inquiries and original work could be done, provided adequate medical assistance was provided for routine duties.

23. MISCELLANEOUS.

All teachers now engaged are employed subject to being found medically fit by the School Medical Officer.

Personal and Family History.

The following shows the number of children examined exclusive of "specials," and their Infectious Diseases record.

	No. Examined	PREVIOUS ILLNESSES.				
		Measles	Whooping Cough.	Chicken Pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria
Entrants:						
Boys ...	342	191	100	96	19	2
Girls ...	296	147	87	78	20	1
All Entrants ...	638	338	187	174	39	3
Per Cent. ...	...	52.9	29.2	27.2	6.1	.4
2nd Age Group						
Boys ...	313	83	33	34	19	2
Girls ...	296	87	45	61	28	...
All 2nd Age Group...	609	170	78	95	47	2
Per Cent. ...	...	27.9	12.8	15.5	7.7	.3
3rd Age Group						
Boys ...	270	5	9	6	5	...
Girls ...	211	4	2	9	2	...
All 3rd Age Group ...	481	9	11	15	7	...
Per Cent. ...	...	1.8	2.2	3.1	1.4	...

Previous to school medical inspection the parent or guardian is supplied with a special form on which to record the previous illness and family history of the child. The family history is of great value, as it is important to know whether the child comes of a consumptive, epileptic, or other stock.

TABLE IV.

Return of Defects Treated during the Year ended
31st December, 1937.

TREATMENT TABLE.

GROUP 1.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness).

Disease or Defect.	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise	Total.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Skin—			
Ringworm-Scalp—			
(i) X-Ray Treatment	—	—	—
(ii) Other	3	2	5
Ringworm-Body	4	2	6
Scabies	71	19	90
Impetigo	87	39	126
Other Skin Disease	383	57	440
Minor Eye Defects (external and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II)	185	29	214
Minor Ear Defects	149	35	184
Miscellaneous (e.g., Minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.) ...	709	87	796
Total	1591	270	1861

TABLE IV.—*continued.*

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION and SQUINT.

(Excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

Defect or Disease.	No. of Defects dealt with.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Other-wise.	Total.
1)	(2)	(4)	
Errors of Refraction (including Squint) ..	407	15	422
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I) ...	7	4	11
Total... ..	414	19	433

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed :—

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme ... 351

(b) Otherwise ... 11

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles :—

(a) Under the Authority's scheme ... 274

(b) Otherwise ... 59

139 applications were received for free Spectacles—131 pairs were granted free, 6 pairs at half-price. Two applications only were not granted.

TABLE IV.—continued

GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.													
Received Operative Treatment.								Received other forms of Treatment. (4)	Total number treated. (5)				
Under the Authority's Schemes, in Clinic or Hospital. (1)				By Private Practitioner, or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme. (2)						Total. (3)			
				(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)				(i)	(ii)	(iii)
19	3	275	—	2	—	7	2	21	3	282	2	49	357

(i) Tonsils only. (ii) Adenoids only. (iii) Tonsils and Adenoids. (iv) Other defects of the nose and throat.

GROUP IV.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

	Under the Authority's Scheme. (1)			Otherwise (2)			Total number treated
	Residential treatment with education. (i)	Residential treatment without education. (ii)	Non-Residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic. (iii)	Residential treatment with education. (i)	Residential treatment without education. (ii)	Non-residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic (iii)	
Number of children treated.	—	17	32	—	2	3	54

Table IV.—*continued.*

GROUP V.—DENTAL DEFECTS.

(1). Number of Children who were:—

() Inspected by the Dentist :

Aged :	3.5	...	354
	6	...	274
	7	...	315
	8	...	125
	9	...	31
	10	...	49
	11	...	316
	12	...	251
	13	...	203
	14	...	231

Total	...	2149
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Specials	...	...	...	...	473
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Grand Total	...	2622
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2). Found to require treatment	...	...	1673
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(3). Actually treated	...	...	1328
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(4). Attendances made by children for treatment	...	...	...	1689
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(5). Half-days devoted to:—

Inspection	...	...	...	39
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Treatment	...	...	...	152
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Total	...	191
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(6). Fillings:—

Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	103
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Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	21
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Total	...	124
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(7). Extractions:—

Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	1098
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Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	2467
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Total	...	3565
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(8). Administrations for general anaesthetics

for extractions	...	...	...	1183
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(9). Other operations:—

Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	57
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Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	33
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Total	...	90
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Table IV.—*continued.***GROUP V.—UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.**

(i)	Average number of visits per School made during the year by the School Nurses ...	11
(ii)	Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses ...	12,591
(iii)	Number of individual children found unclean	125
(iv)	Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the local Education Authority	—
(v)	Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken:	
	(a) Under the Education Act, 1912 ...	—
	(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	—

School Closure.

No Schools were closed during 1937 through Epidemic.

Charges for Treatment at School and Dental Clinics.

The following charges are made to parents whose income is in excess of 10s. per head of the family after allowing payment for rent:—

MINOR AILMENTS.—Free for the first fortnight.
 1s. for three months' treatment.
 2s. for six months' treatment.

DENTISTRY.—6d. an attendance, or 1s. inclusive fee for complete treatment.

Application Forms for Free Treatment are obtainable on request.

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